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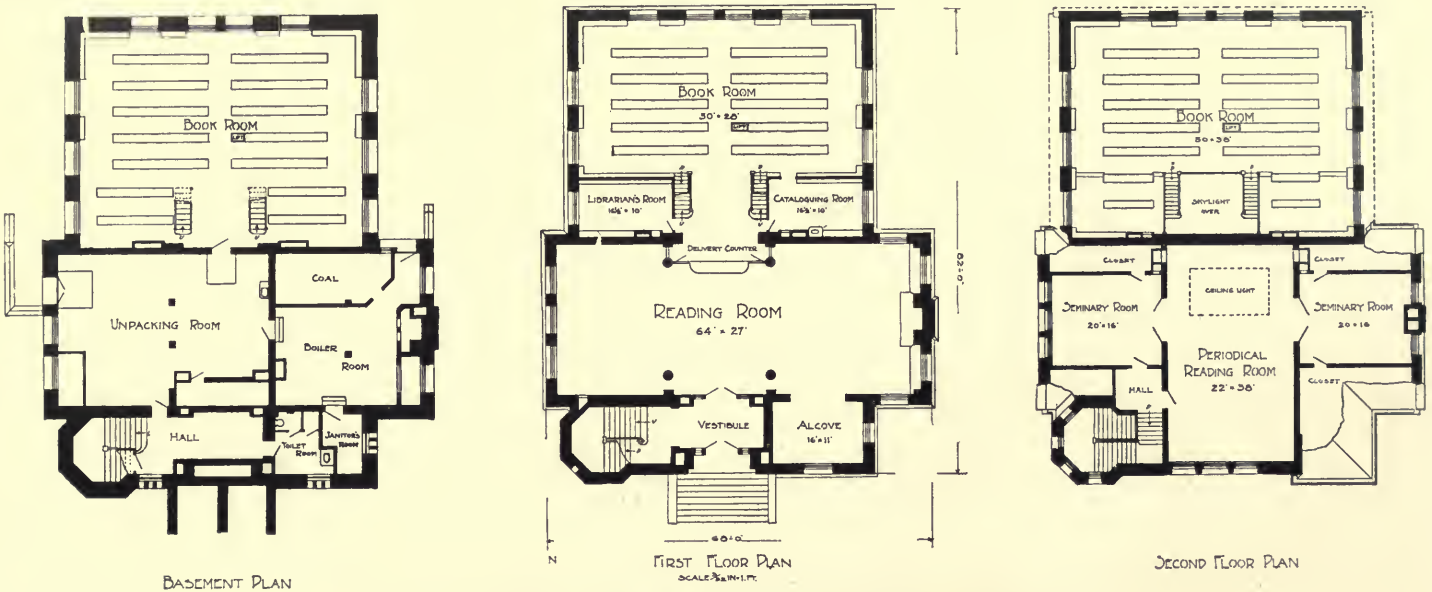
***Index Medicus.*** ***Index Catalogue.***
***Poole's Index.***

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. JANUARY, 1897. No. 1

THE year 1896, though it includes the founding of no great libraries and no exceptional legislation, is noteworthy as the date of the largest conference in the history of the A. L. A., that at Cleveland, and for a notable and wholesome advance in state and local gatherings, only less important than those of the A. L. A. itself, such as the Wisconsin convention, the Indiana "library institute," and the joint meetings in New York state and in New England. In the chain of library associations the Illinois Library Association and the Western Pennsylvania Library Club make new links. Wisconsin ranks as the banner library state of the year, with its newly-formed Travelling Library Association, its library section of the state teachers' association, its Milwaukee library club, its older state association, and its effective library commission. Ohio was the only state to organize a library commission during the year, but bills for the purpose were presented to the legislatures of Minnesota, Michigan, and Georgia, and efforts to secure their passage will be renewed this year. A library law was passed in Utah, and travelling libraries have been established in Iowa, under charge of the state library. Indeed the extension of the travelling library idea is one of the significant events of the year. The system is now in wide operation in New York, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and exists in some form in several other states; it is just making its way into Iowa, and in Pennsylvania it is being energetically developed not only in the more remote districts but for outlying parts of the larger cities. The growing appreciation of the need of close connection between the library and the schools has been evidenced by the establishment during the year of a library section in the National Educational Association, an example which has been followed in Wisconsin by the organization of a library section of the state teachers' association; while the tendency to bring the library into closer relation to the public has been shown in the extension of library advertising, in the establishment of children's rooms and "home libraries," and is the constant increase of library exhibitions of books, engravings, and works of art. In library literature the notable production of the year was the volume of the long-delayed World's Congress papers, which forms perhaps the most compact, practical, and comprehensive body of library doctrine yet put at the service of the profession. In England the bibliographical conference of the Royal Society laid the groundwork of a magnificent enterprise, while in Great Britain as well as on the continent the long-continued discussion of the decimal classification seems to promise well for the ultimate establishment of an international system of bibliography.

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THE year to come will include at least three noteworthy events — the national incorporation of the American Library Association, if that plan be carried through; the European trip and international library conference; and, most important of all, the opening of the new national library. The program of the European trip has been well arranged, providing at very moderate cost for a trip which will combine in excellent proportion the conference meeting, the visitation of libraries, and the usual sight-seeing delights of the tourist under rather unusual advantages in journeying. It has been decided to hold the regular conference in Philadelphia instead of Boston, as originally suggested — a decision especially interesting from the fact that the first conference, from which both the A. L. A. and the L. A. U. K. took their origin, was held in Philadelphia in 1876, so that the association comes of age, perhaps as a nationally incorporated body, in the city of its birth. The plan for the reincorporation of the association proposes a charter by specific congressional act, which will give the organization a national standing, like that of the American Historical Association, and possibly bring it into official relation with the national library, with the function given to the boards of visitors for West Point and for the Naval Academy, annually appointed by the President.

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THE future of the national library in its new home is really *the* library question of the year. *Imprimis*, it is to be hoped that the latest proposition to make the magnificent new building a sort of general pound for all stray departments that are crowded out from other quarters in Washington, will find no favor what-

ever. To house in this building this bureau and that bureau would be to invite the traditionary camel who would grow and grow, leaving no place for the library proper except the reading-room rotunda and some adjacent shelving. There is grave danger, otherwise, that this magnificent opportunity will be in some measure lost, unless a larger foresight is given to the consideration of the new library at this critical time than is now provided for. The removal of the books is the first critical point, because this removal gives opportunity for rearrangement and organization which can outline the methods of the library for years to come, or for mismanagement which will result in a general muddle that cannot be straightened out for years. Mr. Spofford has been so busy with the mass of detail which he has undertaken to handle that he has not trained himself as an executive for this kind of work, nor been able to keep in touch with the modern developments of library organization and practice. Nor has he benefited, as was to be hoped, by recent experience; to cite a single instance, copyright checks are still unbanked and used, without proper safeguards, to pay off the minor bills of the library. It will be cruel to load him down with this additional work until he frees himself from some of the old detail, and even his own recommendation for the separation of the copyright office has not yet been made effective. Mr. Spofford is understood to desire the association with himself of a board of direction, which could give more continuous attention to the interests of the library than one made up of congressmen alone, and in the present critical time he should certainly be supplemented either by a commission of practical and experienced men, who should stand alongside him in planning or providing for the work of removal and reorganization, or be given executive associates who would do this work in consultation with him.

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THE joint committee on library, which was charged by Congress with planning during the recess for the placing of the library in its new home and the removal of the books, did some good work in the short time which it could utilize, and gave hearings to a number of librarians designated either by the president of the A. L. A. or cited by the committee itself. It is unfortunate that after Congress had specially authorized this committee to provide for the future organization of the library, conflict should have arisen from the side of the appropriations committee. The recent history of the library question in these particulars is informingly treated in the article elsewhere, and a full report is given also of the A. L. A. hearing. That this library will ultimately become in name as it is in fact the national library is beyond doubt, and the failure to recognize now this manifest destiny and to provide now on the large scale which this implies will be nothing short of a national misfortune. The completion of the library within the time assigned and well within the money appropriated, has been a triumph of executive ability on the part of Gen. Casey and his worthy successor, Mr. Green, and the same foresight on the part of Congress which put the building work in such excellent form, and on the part of its trustee, for such Gen. Casey considered himself, in executive work, should be shown now in providing for the library as was shown in providing for its home. The national library of America should have the benefit of the best experience from national libraries abroad, of the widest range of professional cooperation at home, and of the largest foresight on the part of its governing body, if it is to be worthily representative of this great people.

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MEANTIME, the good work of government cataloging is progressing in strides. Now that Superintendent Crandall has been able to provide the initial volume of the "Comprehensive index" provided for in the act of 1895, by his "Catalogue of public documents of the 53d Congress and of all departments of the government of the United States for the period March 4, 1893, to June 30, 1895," the only wonder will be why we did not have so sensible and useful a thing long ago, and it will be in itself the only argument needed with congressmen to prove how wise it is to have a thing well done. It is the general verdict that the work could scarcely have been better done, or, as one user put it, "it is the easiest book to find things in you ever saw." A reference to the entry "libraries" and the following entries will sufficiently indicate its practical value. It is peculiarly gratifying to note the pleasant word in the preface that "the Ames 'Comprehensive index' of documents of the 51st and 52d congresses is recognized as the most successful predecessor of the present volume." A bill has been presented in Congress to authorize Dr. Ames to extend the plan of his index backward to cover the congresses between the Ben.

Perley Poore volume and his index referred to. But against the form of this bill we must enter gentle protest. The act of 1895 was intended to systematize and unify the cataloging of government publications, and now that a superintendent of public documents, including their cataloging, has been provided for, no government catalog ought to be authorized except through that office. The relations between Superintendent Crandall and Dr. Ames have been throughout so courteous and satisfactory that if a compact tabulation covering the previous congresses must serve in place of the better but more costly method of the present volume, Superintendent Crandall might very properly commit its preparation to Dr. Ames, already skilled in this work and already in possession of much of the material for it. But now that we have unified the work of government cataloging, let us not begin again to divide the responsibility or take other steps backward.

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PROGRESS has also been made in unofficial national bibliography. The "American catalogue" for 1890–95 was completed, in page-proof, before the end of 1896, and the appendixes, covering state publications, publications of societies, etc., will soon be in the hands of the binder. The "Annual American catalogue,' nearly ready, will this year have a companion volume from England, as the publishers of the "English catalogue" have decided to adopt the American method and make their annual publication one of full title entries instead of an abbreviated tabulation. The "Annual literary index," including the continuation of Poole's index. is in an advanced stage, and will have this year a rival in Mr. Brett's "Cumulative index," although this is confined to periodicals proper and does not attempt to cover the same number of publications. Its practical usefulness in libraries in its monthly shape has been demonstrated, and it is to be hoped that neither publication will make the continuation of the other impossible. From France has come, during the year, the complement of the American "Publishers' trade list annual," and of Whitaker's "Reference catalogue of English literature," in the shape of the "Bibliographie Française," the index volume of which, although showing the result of composite work on the part of the publishing houses contributing to the index, is in plan a feature in advance of either its American prototype or the English volume. It is interesting to note how American bibliographical work has given the cue to bibliographical progress abroad.

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IT is to be hoped that the problem of printed catalog cards may be solved by the tentative plan which the Publishing Section of the A. L. A. has put forward. This is intended to meet the double purpose of supplying the leading libraries with cards for all books, so far as they can be gathered for such cataloging, and the small libraries which desire only a limited number of cards. The new system is in the most capable hands possible, having the advantage of the facilities of the Boston Athenæum and of Mr. Lane's direct oversight, as well as of Miss Browne's personal skill and practical experience. It now remains for the libraries, large and small, to support this enterprise, if they really want printed catalog cards. Perhaps no system can be devised that will more nearly meet the double need referred to, and if this enterprise should lack support it will scarcely be possible to revive the scheme of printed catalog cards for many years to come.

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THERE was a field day in New York state on Jan. 14. The joint meeting of the State Library Association and the New York Library Club, held in Brooklyn at the initiative of the new Brooklyn Public Library Association, proved a great success, albeit the dinner was cut short at both ends and was a less distinctive feature of the gathering than usual, because of the succeeding public meeting. The symposium in the morning on "What librarians should read" developed naturally, as Mr. Baker clearly put it, into a discussion of what librarians can read, Mr. Dewey pointing out that a librarian in the midst of his executive duties cannot expect to do personal reading in office hours any more than any other executive. In the afternoon the meeting accomplished the impossible task of reviewing most of the leading books of the year within three hours, a most useful following of the plan suggested by Miss Cutler for the Cleveland conference. The absence of Mr. Larned, which was keenly regretted by those especially who heard his brilliant, scholarly, and masterful address at Cleveland, which so put him to the fore among the leaders of the profession, was caused, happily, by the need of his presence at the other end of the state, where the Buffalo city authorities were the same evening

discussing the development of the fine subscription library under his charge into a free public library.

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NEW YORK, although it has led in state organization, thanks to Mr. Dewey's work at Albany, has not been foremost in developing municipal free libraries — perhaps because of a wholesome trend toward the development of important subscription or privately-endowed libraries into free public libraries. This has been shown in New York, Brooklyn, and Buffalo, New York being the first to emerge from the chrysalis stage under the wisely-managed consolidation of the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations into the New York Public Library, and Buffalo coming next with the plan mentioned above. The new public library association in Brooklyn has not had the entire sympathy of many of those most in favor of a public library for Brooklyn, since it diverged from the original plan of an association to promote public interest in that direction and became a public library on paper, with a board of directors but with no books and no funds. Great credit is nevertheless due to the enterprising ladies who brought about the eminently successful public meeting on Jan. 14, which took the ingenious shape of a general reception to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the chief American benefactor of the library cause. At that meeting the names of the board of directors appointed by the mayor were announced, the most of the appointments being of complimentary appointees rather than of men specially informed as to library progress. The mayor's letter made the unfortunate suggestion that the board might be increased to 25, which would be directly contrary to the experience in good administration, for so large a body of trustees divides responsibility to the extent of doing altogether away with it. Altogether it is difficult to say whether the new movement in Brooklyn, which city is handicapped at the present from making appropriations on an adequate scale for a public library, will really promote the cause which all have at heart, or by dividing forces rather hinder that development. The organization of so important a library as Brooklyn should have, should be in the hands of skilled persons, should be carefully safeguarded from political influences, and should in its constitution and plans have the benefit of the best library knowledge of to-day; and half good work is often disastrously in the way of really good work.

PUBLISHERS' NOTE. — The December number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, being the Conference number, suffers the usual delay. The number will be mailed to subscribers as soon as the recorder has put the last portion of material in the printers' hands. The index to the LIBRARY JOURNAL for 1896 waits only for the page-proofs of this number, on the completion of which it will be promptly issued. It is probable that the general index of the LIBRARY JOURNAL planned last year, will be extended to cover volumes 1–21 instead of the first 20 volumes, and will be issued during the current year.

Libraries and library assistants are reminded that a special rate of $2 per year for the LIBRARY JOURNAL is made to library assistants where the periodical respectively is taken at the regular subscription rate by the library or by the chief librarian. Librarians are requested to give opportunity to members of their staff to make clubs of this kind.

## Communications.

*LIST OF SUBJECT HEADINGS.*

THE edition of "List of subject headings" is nearly exhausted, and the Publishing Section is considering the publication of a second edition. If any librarian or cataloger has noted any corrections, additions, or other suggestions I shall be glad to receive them.

GARDNER M. JONES.

SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY,
SALEM, MASS.

*A WORD ON "THE NATIONAL SPIRIT."*

YOUR first editorial in the current [November] LIBRARY JOURNAL contained the following sentence: "The feeling of the West against the East, so rampant before election day, is directly contrary to the national spirit." That looks rather curious out here. We have libraries out here that receive sundry eastern publications like the *Sun*, the *Nation*, *Harper's Weekly*, etc. If one can judge anything by them, the East is not entirely innocent of malignant feelings concerning the West. To the East the West has so long been merely an instrument whereby they can extort a higher interest on their investments, that it is, no doubt, a painful surprise to find that the worm has found that it has feelings and has turned. We are willing to put our grade of "national spirit" up against the world, Wall Street included. We deplore any sort of "national spirit" that does not include a recognition of the right of the producing classes to at least enough of the products of toil to support life. We believe in "equal rights for all, and special privileges for none." We do not believe that the "national spirit" is restricted geographically to the East.

Respectfully submitted by

A MEMBER OF THE A. L. A.

LINCOLN, NEB.,
Dec. 5, 1896.

## A CONGRESSIONAL OR A NATIONAL LIBRARY?

THE appearance, the week before Congress opened, of seven members of the American Library Association before the joint committee on the Library of Congress in Washington has been the most interesting happening in the library world since the Cleveland conference.

The date fixed for the completion of the new building for the Congressional Library being 1896, and the appropriation bills making provision for the work of each branch of the government having to be made up at least a year ahead, plans for its moving and rearrangement in its new quarters began to attract the attention of Congress as early as the 53d Congress, at its session in 1894–95. In obedience to a clause in the appropriation bill passed March, 1895, Mr. Spofford submitted in December, 1895, a special report, recommending as the most important desideratum in the reorganization of the library, this: that the copyright registry should be separated from the management of the library, and a register of copyrights appointed as an executive officer, with his assistants, distinct from the library staff.

A clause for the appointment of this register of copyrights was embodied in the appropriation bill of May, 1896, but it called for his appointment by the joint committee on the library. This singular provision, for a committee of Congress to appoint an executive officer, was the subject of a long discussion in the Senate and two days' conference between the Senate and the House. The discussion in the Senate was very interesting, as throwing light on the law governing the library, as were also the debates this December in the House.*

This mode of appointment was finally declared unconstitutional. But as neither house could bring themselves to abdicate the control of copyright, which had come under their control solely through its being jumbled into the duties of the librarian of Congress, and as no motion prevailed to put the appointment where it properly belongs, in the hands of the President, the register of copyrights was finally dropped altogether. The bill, which contained all the appropriations available up to the end of June, 1897, was finally passed in about the same stereotyped terms as customary for many years, without granting Mr. Spofford's request to be relieved of the copyright business, and without appropriating a cent for the expenses of moving the books into the new building, although it was to be ready for occupancy by the first of March.

The question of the means and the manner of the necessary changes was, however, given over for farther consideration to the joint committee on the library, which was empowered, for this object, to sit during the recess, and give hearings on the subject. It was before this committee, shortly before the present session of Congress began, that the American Library Association gave its expert testimony through Messrs. Brett, Hayes, Dewey, Fletcher, Putnam, Soule, and Baker (*see* p. 14). This testimony is to be printed with the report of the committee, and will form interesting reading. Unfortunately, the bill which contains the appropriations for the library had to be brought in before the report and testimony of the joint committee was ready. The joint committee, therefore, was obliged to describe to the appropriations committee the plan which they expected to recommend, in order that appropriations might be made to correspond.

Their recommendations, in brief, were these: That a director, at a salary of $6000, was to be appointed in the usual manner for heads of departments, namely, by "The President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate." That a chief librarian, at $4000, and a registrar of copyrights at $3000, were each to serve under the director, but were to be appointed by the joint committee, as, also, each and every subordinate in the library staff, copyright staff, or custodian of the building's office were to be. This manner of appointment was afterwards amended by the committee's adding to the clause, "by the joint committee on the library," the words "on the recommendation of the director of the library." That the number of employes under the director was to be increased from 42 to 186. 135 of these were for the duties under the custodian of the building, the only increase to the library staff being nine catalogers. It was represented in the debate that Mr. Spofford had asked for no greater increase, and had said that with this added force of nine

* *See Congressional Record*, Senate, May 21, 1896; also *same*, House, Dec. 17, Dec. 19, Dec. 21, Dec. 22, 1896.

catalogers he could in three years prepare an author catalog of the library, including the Law Library. The appropriation for the purchase of books was to be raised from $4000, which it has been for some years, to $8000, with an appropriation for periodical publications of $2500 instead of $1500, as formerly. Any balance remaining of the appropriation for the construction of the building — it being understood that there will be a surplus of over $50,000 — was to be made available for expenses of removal and purchase of furniture. This money was to be available for use immediately, the rest of the appropriation, being made for the fiscal year 1898, of course could not come into use until July 1, 1897. The joint committee was also to be empowered to make all rules and regulations for the care of the building and the conduct of the library. During the intervals between the expiration of one Congress and the assembling of the next one it was provided that a temporary joint committee should be appointed, on the side of the House, by the Speaker, to hold over and govern the library in the interregnum.

The joint committee on the library, with its changing *personnel*, was thus constituted the permanent board of control of the library, to oversee, exactly as do the trustees of public and endowed libraries, the management of the librarian. This scheme for the management of the Library of Congress unfortunately did not meet with the approval of the committee on appropriations, especially the provision that all appointments except that of the director should be made by the joint committee. The appropriations committee, accordingly, introduced a bill with different provisions from those proposed by the joint committee, and forced the latter committee to offer their proposition as a substitute, throwing on them the burden of proof.

The main difference in the appropriation committee's proposition was that the librarian, who is to have the $6000 salary, the $4000 official being termed his chief assistant, is to be appointed, as formerly, by the President solely. The librarian, instead of a director, is to have charge of all branches of the work, making all appointments, including those of copyright work and the care of the building. They also reduce the appropriation for purchase of books to its old figure, $4000, leaving, however, the $2500 for periodical publications. An amendment by Mr. Parker to raise the $4000 to $25,000, although supported by figures giving appropriations in other large libraries, was voted down. In every other respect, especially as regards the number of employes, their bill coincides with that proposed by the joint committee, and they say it gives everything in that line asked for by Mr. Green and Mr. Spofford. They make the claim also that their bill makes no changes in existing law, leaving the present management to continue as it is.

So far as the House of Representatives is concerned, to leave things as they are, rather than to create the joint committee a board of trustees to make appointments and regulations in the library, seemed to find favor, and was approved by a majority of 85 to 27, the $6000 salary, however, being cut down to $5000. The grounds on which this vote was given were the following: It was argued that to add to the appointment of the librarian, which is now by the President solely, the necessity of confirmation by the Senate, would put it under the control of politics, while it was desirable to make it a life tenure. But a motion to take all the library appointments out of politics by placing them under the civil service law was met by the remark from Mr. Stone of: "Mr. Chairman, I suggest that at this stage of the proceedings we ought not to put this House on record in favor of a proposition of that kind," and it was voted down, 73 to 37.

Again, it was argued that the joint committee was too changing a body to make regulations and appointments for a service in which it was desirable to secure long tenure of service. It was declared also that the head of the library was shorn of all control of his subordinates by being divested of all power of dismissal. Another weighty argument was that the appointment of 186 employes was too large an amount of patronage to give over to the joint committee.

The proposition of the appropriations committee, conservative, leaving things as they are save for an increase in appropriation and number of employes, having passed the House, is now in the hands of the Senate, where action on it will be followed with much interest by librarians.

The debates in the Senate last May and in the House this December have brought out two facts very plainly. The first is that the Congressional Library is a white elephant on the hands of Congress. Having, like Topsy, "growed," without the moulding of successive

legislation, it is now on the basis of the law of 1800 amended in 1802, which makes it a department of Congress. But with an aggregate of over 1,000,000 books, pamphlets, musical compositions and prints, with accessions of from 70,000 to 100,000 yearly, in this magnificent building, with a staff of near 200 and the necessity of living up to modern requirements for an active library, it has become a large executive bureau. Congress is therefore either in the unconstitutional position of having to manage an executive branch of the government, or it must relinquish what, for a century past, has been part of its organization.

The second fact made evident is that by making, in 1870, copyright registry a part of the duties of the librarian, Congress has complicated the matter still further by adding another executive function to what has already grown beyond the scope of a legislative body to manage, namely, the Congressional Library. So that it is unconstitutional for Congress to appoint a register of copyrights, although he is to perform the very duties which they still require their librarian to perform, in spite of his many protests. This librarian, though now appointed by the President, is so appointed, they say, only because of a compromise agreement between the Senate and the House, because at the time of the passage of the law the two houses were unable to agree on a candidate. His appointment, they say, can at any moment be taken back to be made by the joint action of the two houses. But they do admit, apparently, that if they should so appoint a librarian he could not register copyrights.

Now the resolutions offered in the American Library Association meeting at Cleveland spoke of the Library of Congress as the National Library. Mr. Spofford, in the special report of December, 1895, already quoted, calls it the National Library.

That there are some glimmerings of the situation among the members of Congress let the following testify: On May 21, 1896, in the Senate, Mr. Mills said, among other things: "Now, this is no Congressional Library. It has the name of Congressional Library, but the property belongs to the nation." On Dec. 19, 1896, Mr. Dockery said in the House:

"This Congressional Library — it is a misnomer to call it the Congressional Library; it is a great National Library [loud applause] and belongs to the Government of the United States. It belongs to the people of the United States, and is an executive bureau, and as such should be presided over by some executive officer with authority to appoint and remove its employees. [Renewed applause.]"

That it is to be a National Library is surely the only ground on which the country has allowed Congress to spend $7,000,000 on its building, as Congress cannot need such accommodations for its own use solely. It is the only justifiable ground for requiring authors to contribute two copies of each work, as it would not be equitable to take this property from individuals of the nation unless it was to be the property of the nation, not solely of the Congressional body. It is the ground on which rests the popular interest in it, which causes information about the library in newspapers and periodicals to be eagerly scanned and sought for. It is the ground on which the American Library Association takes deep interest in its having liberal appropriations and a good administration. And a National Library it should be.

As a Congressional Library its usefulness has been hampered by, 1, insufficient room; 2, short hours of opening; 3, insufficient appropriation and assistance; 4, the old-man-of-the-sea copyright business; and 5, perhaps not least, by appointments made for political influence, not by merit only. Number 1 will no longer hinder. Let Congress see to it that 2, 3, and 4 are equally well provided for. As to the last, those who have had experience in choosing library assistants by civil service or competitive examinations will universally bear witness to the excellence of that method of testing the applicants and the competence of assistants acquired through such tests.

Let Congress renounce the right, now 96 years old, which it holds in the Library of Congress. Let it constitute by statute the library, together with the copyright business, as an executive establishment under one executive head (copyright and library being two distinct branches), with a board of regents, as the Smithsonian Institution is organized. Let it give it appropriations adequate to its confessed national scope and importance. Finally, let it throw open the appointments to the nation at large through civil service examinations. The libraries of Italy, Germany, and other countries are already so managed. Let Congress give the nation a library and not only a monument of stone.

## RAILROAD TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.*

By Samuel H. Ranck, *The Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.*

The system of travelling libraries, under the care of the state, was introduced to the American people in 1892. In that year the legislature of New York authorized such libraries, and in February, 1893, the first one was sent out from Albany. From the day that New York began the experiment, interest has been growing, and more than half a dozen states have already taken up the plan. The purpose is that those who dwell in a community far removed from a library may be able to obtain some of the privileges and advantages of those who have easy access to a large collection of books. In brief, on the application of responsible parties, and the payment of transportation, a selected number of volumes (usually 50 or 100) are sent from the central library to a community, to circulate among the people for a few months. The books so sent form the "travelling library." This is the New York plan, which is developing along the lines followed in Australia, where the travelling library has been in operation a number of years.

But long before the state of New York had taken up the travelling library some of our American railroad companies were circulating books to the employes along their lines; and those states that have adopted the system of travelling libraries can extend their usefulness by enlisting the interest of railroads and railroad men in the work. The railroad, the means of travel, should be made the means of introducing the travelling library into every corner of the state. The experience of the Boston and Albany, of the Baltimore and Ohio, and of the New York Central railroads, is direct evidence that the effort would be crowned with success.

The earliest railroad travelling library of which I have any knowledge, that of the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, was opened in Boston, free to all the employes of the company, in February, 1869, and was moved to the general office of the company at Springfield, Mass., its present location, about 1881. The library now numbers in the neighborhood of 3000 volumes, all of which are for circulation (except some 500 reference-books). Its circulation is about 3000 per year. It has received numerous donations of money and books, but it is chiefly supported by annual appropriations of the company. Its government is vested in a committee of five: two members of the board of directors, the clerk of the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, the assistant superintendent, and the master mechanic.

The rules state that "books from stations must be in the library Wednesday morning, in order that more may be sent the same week. Any book received after that time will be checked off, but no more sent until the following week." Orders for books are answered every Wednesday, and each borrower may draw two books at a time. Books may be retained two weeks and may be renewed; otherwise they are subject to a fine of one cent a day. A revised catalog was published in 1889, and since then four supplements have been issued; from these the borrowers select their books.

The library of the Railroad Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City was founded in 1887, by Mr. Cornelius Vanderbilt, who supports it. It contains about 7500 volumes, 750 of which are classed as railroad books, — more or less technical. In *Baker's Railway Magazine* for November, Mr. Stevens, the librarian, tells us that, "During last year 12,337 volumes were drawn by 1377 readers, 5713 volumes were delivered by train service to other railroad branches of the association at points along the line of the road, and 1131 were delivered to members at stations holding special library tickets." The books delivered by train service were sent to 724 readers along the lines of the New York Central.

Almost every town in Massachusetts has its free public library, and the people who live along the lines of the Boston and Albany Railroad have freer and easier access to books and libraries than any other people in the world.

* I desire to record my appreciation of the assistance received from the three librarians who, by their courtesy, made the writing of this sketch possible: Edward L. Janes, of the Boston and Albany, W. F. Stevens, of the Railroad Branch Y. M. C. A., New York, and A. M. Irving, of the Baltimore and Ohio. — S. H. R.

During the last half century the state of New York has spent millions of dollars on books for the people. It is, therefore, not unnatural that there should be a larger use of the travelling library of a railroad in a section where, until within recent years, the free circulating library was almost unknown. Such a library, in some of its features both original and unique, is found in the Baltimore and Ohio Employes' Free Circulating Library. This library, after having been moved several times, is now at home in a large second-story room, in the building at the corner of Pratt and Poppleton streets, Baltimore, at the Mt. Clare shops.

In 1884 the late Dr. W. T. Barnard was "assistant to president" of the B. & O. corporation, and to him the library is largely, if not entirely, due. Dr. Barnard was actively interested in the B. & O. Relief Association (now the Relief Department), and thus acquired a knowledge "of the sad lack of educational facilities along the main stem and branches of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad." He therefore undertook to establish a free circulating library "exclusively for the use of the employes and families of employes of this service." His plan was outlined in a circular, dated December 1, 1884, from which the following is taken:

"The establishment of a Free Circulating Library for the employes of the company is undertaken in the belief that such an institution will be welcomed by all classes as a popular and desirable measure, and that, through its agency and development, much-needed opportunity will be afforded employes to qualify themselves for promotion and advancement in life, while at the same time their children, wherever located, will have at hand facilities for study and instructive reading-matter seldom obtainable outside large cities. This will be done without cost to employes and in such a manner that the books furnished can be utilized not only at reading-rooms (not always convenient of access), but also amid the comforts and society of their homes.

"The plan, in brief, is, by means of contributions of money and books, to establish a compact general and technical library, selected with special reference to the wants and tastes of employes and their families; to print inexpensive but carefully prepared catalogs and cards on which to make requisitions for books, and to so distribute them that every member can receive and return literature, without delay, through the company's train service. . . .

"This library is therefore to be exclusively for the use of all employes, their wives, and more particularly, *their children*. Its mission will be to exert an elevating and educating influence on those it reaches. It will supply current periodicals, standard works on the sciences, general literature, poetry, historical, text, and other books of practical utility to engineers, mechanics, firemen, and other railroad employes, and those especially adapted to educating and forming the character of the young. Whatever is immoral in tendency will be rigidly excluded from its shelves, and its management will do all it can to discourage the use of literature from which unhealthy and unreal ideas of life might be drawn.

"It has been created and will be sustained by voluntary contributions of money and literature from the officers and employes of the Baltimore and Ohio Company and outside friends interested in their welfare.

"Its headquarters will be at Baltimore; but it will undertake to distribute books, etc., to any point on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad lines."

The plan, as outlined by Dr. Barnard, received the official sanction of the company March 2, 1885, through an order of the president, the late Robert Garrett. The order provided for the management of the library by a library committee, said committee to be composed of two directors of the Technological School, two members of the committee of management of the Relief Association, and a representative of the B. & O. Company, appointed by the president. The principal instructor of the Technological School and the secretary of the Relief Association were to be members of the library committee *ex-officio*. The Technological School was abandoned some years ago, and since then its representation on the committee has been dropped. When the Relief Association was changed to the Relief Department the corresponding officials of the latter became members of the library committee. The library year begins December 1, and the members of the committee are appointed annually. The president of the company appoints the librarian.

The library committee, as provided for in the president's order, organized and began work at once. They appealed for aid to those only who were financially interested in the company. They collected $5391 and received about 1500 well-selected books as donations. The nucleus of the collection was a donation of 600 volumes to the employees at Mt. Clare by the late John W. Garrett, in September, 1869.

December 3, 1885, the library began its work with 4500 volumes on its shelves, 3000 of which had been purchased. The first year 16,120 volumes were circulated, 4850 at Mt. Clare, and the remainder at different stations on the lines

of the B. & O. The circulation for the second year was 23,514; for the third year, 23,470, a slight decrease. The fourth year showed an increase of more than 2000 over the previous year; and since then there has been a steady growth in the circulation. The circulation for 1895 was 37,702, and in 1896, 2500 borrowers drew 39,505 volumes from the library. Since 1885 more than 300,000 volumes have been drawn.

These books travel as far westward as the Mississippi River, through eight great states, and over a railway system approximating 3000 miles. They are delivered to borrowers through local agents, and the average time, from the placing of an order for a book in the hands of an agent until the book called for is in his hands, is now less than 24 hours for the entire system. The library uses 674 agencies, each agency serving as a delivery-station for the employes of the community or department.

Along with the increase in the number of books used there has been a decrease in the percentage of fiction. The first year 64 per cent. of the circulation was fiction; the percentage of fiction is now less than 53 per cent.

A book may be retained two weeks, and may be once renewed for a like period, or oftener, if no application for it is on file. There is a fine of one cent per day on books kept over time, but a margin of three days is allowed to cover the time consumed in transit.

On leaving the service of the company all books must be returned before pay-vouchers are cashed; otherwise the value of the book will be deducted from the wages of the employe.

The whole system of sending out and returning a book is similar to that of the registry department of the post-office. Every person who handles a package receipts for it, so that it is possible to trace anything that may be lost. The company is responsible for all books in transit, and it exacts the same care in the handling of library property that is required for all other property.

The system of ordering and charging books for circulation is very simple. The borrower fills out a requisition blank, that is, by writing the name and call numbers of the books he wants, which he selects from printed catalogs, and by signing his name and address and the department in which he is employed. The requisition is then countersigned by the agent through whom he wishes to get the book, and it is sent to the librarian at Mt. Clare, Baltimore. The librarian takes the first book on the list (using his discretion, however, in case of fiction, to select for the reader), and then makes out a record-card for the transaction. On this card is entered the date, the requisition, book, agency and package number, and the name of the borrower. The card is filed in the order of the book number. Another entry is made on a card under the agency number. This entry shows how many and what books are at any agency at any time. When a book is returned its number is marked off on the agency card, and the charge on the card filed under the book number is cancelled. A new series of requisition numbers begins every year on the first of December, and the requisition number is always the total circulation of the fiscal year to date.

After all entries have been duly made and the requisitions have been stamped and dated, the books are wrapped in packages. These packages are then stamped and labelled for delivery through the baggage department to the agents along the lines. Several agencies take such a number of books that satchels are used in carrying them back and forth.

To prolong the life and usefulness of the books, and at the lowest possible cost, the librarian uses for binding and repair the leather from worn car-seats, which he gets from the passenger-car repair-shops. The leather is practically useless when it is removed from the seats, but the pieces he is able to get makes a binding that is both neat and durable.

Mr. Irving, the enthusiastic librarian, and his assistants are busy getting books ready "to catch trains," and when the trains for the day have been "caught," he will be able to talk to you about his work, but not before. Once a year he goes over the lines, visiting all the agents in the interest of the library. This is done during the summer, when, for about four weeks, the library is closed.

The library now contains about 14,000 volumes. There have been few additions since the B. & O. Company has been in financial straits. Gifts of suitable books will be gladly received.

Corporations, like individuals, are recognizing that their duty to those they employ is not complete on the payment of the stipulated wage. Hence it is that relief departments, Young Men's Christian Associations, and other

helpful organizations are established or encouraged by so many of our railroads. These organizations raise men to a higher physical, intellectual, and moral plane of life — the very fundamentals of faithful service. In other words, it pays to have some regard for the men outside of working hours.

The force of good books in our daily lives is being felt and recognized more and more every day. To the section hand and his family, living in rock-bound isolation, to the operator in the signal-tower, waiting for the click of his instrument to call him to duty, to railroad workingmen everywhere along the company's lines, the books from Baltimore are bringing sunshine; and in the economy of the universe I fancy that it is no less important to cause such sunshine than it is to cause two green blades to grow where now there grows but one.

## A WORD ON CATALOGING.

By Kate Emery Sanborn, *Librarian Manchester (N. H.) City Library.*

While reading Mr. Fletcher's article on "Corporate authorship" in the November number of the Library journal, I discovered an additional advantage in a method of cataloging certain books which had already proved to have many advantages over an older custom. I refer to the practice of entering books on an art or science relating to a particular place, under the art or science rather than under the place. This was recommended by the committee on an index to subject headings in its report to the Chicago conference. I do not know to what extent it has been adopted by other libraries, but I am following it in the making of a new dictionary catalog, and with success and profit. Mr. Fletcher speaks of the mass of entries which accumulate under a country or state which is considered as the author of its reports, etc., and the inconvenience of the entry being an author entry instead of a subject entry, and he cites as an example the Massachusetts Board of Education reports as entered in the Boston Athenæum catalog. It is not my purpose to consider the matter of corporate authorship, but to point out that this inconvenience may be lessened by the subject entry being made under the subject, with country divisions when necessary. Thus, under Massachusetts, Board of Education, would be entered all its reports, since the Board is held to be the author of its reports, but they would also be entered under Education, with a subdivision for Massachusetts. The same rule is followed with agricultural and geological reports, etc. This method has all the advantages of double entry, the reports appearing both under the subject, as subject, and under the place, as author. While it does not reduce the number of entries under the state *as author*, the *subject* entries are fewer since these are made under the various subjects instead of under the state.

And this was the object of the committee's recommendation mentioned above — to reduce the number of subheads occurring under countries. But its chief *raison d'être* to my mind is in its usefulness to the consulters of the catalog.

It is both interesting and profitable to study the attitude of mind with which the average user of a library approaches the catalog, especially if he be unbiassed by any previous experience with either dictionary or classed catalogs.

Believing that, theoretically, this manner of entry was preferable to the opposite method, I have taken pains to notice how our readers look for such books on the catalog, in order to ascertain how it works practically. I find that people look, without exception, under the subject for any book on that subject relating to a particular place.

Members of the Historic Art Club look invariably under Arts, fine, for a history of art in any country, and it apparently does not occur to their minds to look under the country first.

Thus, in my experience, theory and practice agree, and so far as the catalog is now extended, I am much pleased with the result attained.

As to the subheads which do occur under countries, states, and cities, I follow the list given in the committee's report, and published in the conference number of the Library journal for 1893. It seems so satisfactory in every way that I can advise all who are beginning a dictionary catalog to "go and do likewise."

## THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE AND THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

To librarians the specially interesting feature of the work done by the joint committee on the Congressional Library in its recent sessions was the hearing given to members of the American Library Association by that committee on Dec. 1 and 2. An executive session had preceded (as in fact one followed) this hearing, at which the testimony of Mr. Spofford was taken in detail in regard to the arrangement of the books, the methods of cataloging and the catalogs now available, and the present condition of the library as regards its practical use.

At the hearing on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 1 and 2, there were sitting of the committee Senator Wetmore (temporary chairman), and Represenatives Quigg, Cumming, and Harmer. The following members of the A. L. A. were called upon to testify: W: H. Brett, president; R. P. Hayes, secretary; Melvil Dewey, of the N. Y. State Library; Herbert Putnam, of the Boston Public Library; C: C. Soule, trustee of the Brookline Public Library; W: I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, and G: H. Baker, of Columbia University Library.

Certain of those named had been invited directly by the committee; others appeared in response to the suggestions of the president of the A. L. A., but as a whole they appeared in response to the request of the joint committee, which took the initiative, and not because a hearing had been requested by the A. L. A., or by them individually.

The matter of the hearing concerned (1) The proper scope of the national library, both as to the material it should gather and the service it should render; and (2) the reorganization of the library upon its removal to the new building. The examination was conducted by Mr. Quigg in the form of direct questions, and the testimony, which was taken down, will presumably form part of the voluminous report of the proceedings of the joint committee, which will later be printed.

Mr. Dewey was one of the first to be examined when the hearing opened on the morning of Tuesday, Dec. 1. He said that the library should be made the national head of the libraries of the United States, and that its equipment should be proportionate to its importance. It should possess comprehensive and up-to-date catalogs and indexes of its contents—on the fully classified, or dictionary plan—it should be the centre of library activity in the country and "a great national university in itself." It should be systematically and thoroughly classified, and each division should be in charge of a specialist in that line of research. The librarian should have executive control of the library, but his force should be largely increased, and his work should be directive oversight, not details of routine. Mr. Dewey explained at length the work done by the New York State Library, especially in its correspondence department and travelling library system, and recommended that the former be made a prominent feature in the work of the national library. He did not think that the increase of 32 attendants provided for in Mr. Spofford's estimate could do all the work that would be imposed upon them in the new library. He described in detail modern methods of classifying and cataloging, and thought that not less than 20 persons would be required to start work in that department alone.

Mr. Soule said that the library should be a reference library for every citizen in the country, and should be the national centre of educational interests. He thought that 20 catalogers would be the minimum number required, and he would take the salary list of the British Museum as the best criterion of an adequate force of employes for the Congressional Library. Mr. Dewey was later recalled and asked what force he thought necessary to properly conduct the library. He replied that it depended greatly upon the administration of the library, but that there should be not less than 100 employes to begin with, of which number 60 should be catalogers and librarians.

The civil service system came up for discussion, when Mr. Dewey said that in the selection of employes civil service rules should apply. Mr. Quigg said it was the historic policy of Congress to employ its own servants and not to get them from the civil service, and the committee may not deem it best to inaugurate a new policy. He therefore asked what would be thought of establishing a board of examiners, consisting of prominent librarians, operating under direction of Mr. Spofford and the joint committee, to choose the employes for the new library. This, Mr. Dewey thought, would be a satisfactory method, and he believed the librarians of the country would be glad to serve in such a capacity. The question of removing the library from direct congressional control, and providing for its government as an executive department under a board of trustees or regents, was then discussed.

Mr. Herbert Putnam was then examined, and in response to questions described the scope, organization, and methods of administration of the Boston Public Library, with especial reference to the appointment of employes. He doubted the practicability of throwing upon the administration of the national library any features aside from the natural functions of a national library. He did not believe that eight catalogers, as proposed, could do the work of the library, and thought that at least 30 would be required to begin with.

The session was resumed at 8 o'clock Tuesday evening, when Mr. Putnam described the method of removal of the Boston Public Library to its new building, and also explained the system of cataloging in use at the library. Reverting to the matter of the selection of employes, Mr. Quigg asked Mr. Putnam if he would be willing to submit to choosing from a list of two or three persons certified by a board of examiners over which he had no

control. The reply was in the affirmative, if such choice were the alternative of a greater embarrassment. The suggestion that appointments should be made by the joint committee, on recommendation of the librarian, was considered a good one if the librarian were freed from all political pressure.

Mr. G: H. Baker, of Columbia University Library, was then questioned as to the methods followed at Columbia. In regard to the national library, he thought it should be controlled by a board of trustees rather than by a committee of Congress, the tenure of office of the former being more permanent. The trustees would be men familiar with libraries, whereas if any members of the congressional committee possessed such familiarity it would be by a happy chance. He favored a periodical inspection of the library by a committee of librarians, who would report upon the technical points of administration. An inspection by men of scholarly attainments would also be desirable, to ascertain if the library was forming a well-rounded collection.

Mr. Quigg suggested that the American Library Association might take charge of the proposed inspection through a committee appointed by the association.

The hearing was adjourned at 11 o'clock.

On Wednesday morning at 10:30 the session was resumed, and Mr. Putnam was recalled to give suggestions about the removal of the library to the new building. When asked what steps should be immediately taken when the Congressional Library is moved into the new building, Mr. Putnam outlined the work as follows: Installation of the books, the preparation of a comprehensive plan of classi fication, organization of the force, preparation of the shelf-list, verification of the author card catalog, preparation of a printed catalog. He emphasized the advisability of getting out a comprehensive printed catalog. Upon the question of the selection of employes for the Congressional Library, Mr. Putnam thought that unless the librarian could be relieved from the embarrassment of recommendations for appointment by the controlling committee, trustees, or regents, as the case may be, it would be better to have them chosen through some kind of civil service system. The mere personal weight of a recommendation by the library committee or congressional recommendation of other kind, while it might be of the most upright character and removed from the slightest suspicion of coercion, would be most embarrassing to the librarian.

W: I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library, was then examined, and expressed views differing somewhat from those of his colleagues. He said that a limited staff could install the library in its new quarters, and that beyond that little could be attempted at first. He discouraged the idea of attempting to change or develop the general scope of the Congressional Library at this time or to make plans for such changes. He thought the Washington Public Library should become the place for the general public of the city who were not engaged in study or research to resort for general reading. He opposed the removal of the departmental libraries to the Congressional Library, but thought there should be co-operation between them so as to avoid duplication of books. The bibliographical feature of the Congressional Library should receive consideration, but he did not agree with the idea advanced by Mr. Dewey that the catalog of the library should be made a dictionary catalog. Neither did he advocate the application of the civil service system to the selection of employes. That system should apply to positions regarded as public property. It is not ideal, he thought, but is really the choice of two evils, the alternative of the spoils system. He would hesitate, also, to recommend the selection of employes through a board of outside librarians acting as examiners. He thought that when the new era for the Congressional Library sets in, the era of development beyond the present lines, a superior officer to the librarian should be appointed, a director of the library, at a salary of not less than $10,000 a year, to perform the executive duties attendant upon the growth of the library.

Rutherford P. Hayes was examined at the afternoon session. He thought the entire business part of the library should be put into the hands of an executive officer, and the librarian should have dealings only with the literary part of the work. He would relieve the librarian of the duty of making appointments, and choose the employes through the civil service system; and he would like to see the new laws governing the library vest discretionary power in the administration of the library to make such rules and regulations for the conduct of the library as they should deem best. He thought that the governing power should be a little more permanent than is now provided by the joint committee, which should at least have a term of six years.

W. A. Croffut, of Washington, then addressed the committee in behalf of making the library a circulating library, as in earlier days, by the payment of a deposit fee of $5. He was succeeded by W. T. Harris, commissioner of education, who approved of the selection of employes by civil service methods, opposed the removal of the departmental collections of books to the Congressional Library, and emphasized his opinion that the library should be a reference library alone, and should not contain any features of a circulating library.

Mr. Brett's views were, briefly, that the library should be a national institution, and not an appendage of Congress; that in cataloging there should be a shelf list, an accession catalog, and as soon as possible a dictionary catalog; and that employes should be chosen by means of a competitive examination, held by the library authorities, and careful selection from the list of successful applicants, but that choice should not necessarily be limited to the person who passed highest, but should take into consideration other qualifications.

At the close of the hearing the committee were notified of the authority given to the

president of the A. L. A. at the Cleveland Conference to appoint a special committee of the A. L. A. to answer any inquiries addressed by the Congressional Committee to the A. L. A. with reference to the organization of the Congressional Library in its new building; and President Brett stated his readiness to appoint such a committee upon receiving an intimation that such inquiries might be forthcoming.

A direct result of this A. L. A. hearing is the movement toward a re-incorporation of the American Library Association, with the provision that it shall from time to time act as a visiting board of the Congressional Library, thus carrying out Mr. Quigg's suggestion to that effect. Full details of the proposed re-incorporation are given elsewhere in this issue.

This report will show how much careful thought, time, and energy have been given by the joint committee to the future of the Congressional Library. All the various hearings conducted by the committee, at which the testimony of Mr. Green, Mr. Spofford, and others were taken on the subject, were equally detailed and comprehensive, and the final report of their proceedings, when printed, will undoubtedly prove to be one of the most interesting of library documents.

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## SERIAL, TECHNICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT.*

THE following list of the serial, technical, and scientific publications of the government, a large part of which are not issued as Congressional documents, has been compiled by Mr. J. H. Hickcox, of Washington. It should be useful to librarians as giving clue to publications not contained in their sets of public documents, and furnishing a brief comprehensive record of these important issues of the government, which are not now printed in as large quantities as formerly and are rapidly exhausted.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

— Agrostology Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 3.
— Animal Industry Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 16.
— Botany Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 7.
Contributions to N. Amer. Herbarium, vols. 1 to 4.
— Chemistry Division. Bulletins nos, 1 to 47.
— Entomology Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 33.
Bulletins, new series nos. 1 to 6.
Technical series nos. 1 to 4.
*Insect Life.* Vols. 1 to 7.
U. S. Etomological Commission Reports 1 to 5. Bulletins nos. 1 to 6.
— Experiment stations. Bulletins nos. 1 to 32.
Miscellaneous bulletins, nos. 1 to 3.
Record, vols. 1 to 7.
— Fiber Investigation. Reports 1 to 8.
— Foreign Markets Section. Bulletins nos. 1 to 7.
— Forestry Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 13.
— Microscopy Division. Food products (mushrooms). Nos. 1 to 3.
— Ornithology Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 5.
N. American fauna, nos. 1 to 12.
— Pomology Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 4.
— Road Inquiry. Bulletins nos. 1 to 20.
— Soils Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 5.
— Vegetable Pathology Division. Bulletins nos. 1 to 11.
Journal of Mycology, vols. 5, 6, 7.
— Weather Bureau. Bulletins nos. 1 to 15.
Bulletins A—C, 4°.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

— Statistical abstract, 1878 to 1895, nos. 1 to 18.
— Monthly statement of finance, commerce, etc. 4°.
— Annual reports on the state of finances, 1790 to date.
— Annual reports on commerce and navigation, 1821 to date.
— Mint reports on the production of gold and silver, 1880 to 1894.
— Coast Survey bulletins, nos. 1 to 34.

STATE DEPARTMENT.

— Bulletins nos. 1 to 8 (historical), l. 8°.
— Bulletins of American republics, nos. 1 to 69.
— Consular reports, nos. 1 to 193.
— Special consular reports, vols. 1 to 13.
— Statutes-at-large of U. S., 1789 to 1895. 28 vols.

NAVY DEPARMMENT.

— Navy registers, 1815 to 1896.
— Naval Observatory observations, 1845 to 1890. 4°.
— — nautical almanac, 1855 to 1898.
— — astronomical papers, vols. 1 to 7. 4°.
— General information series (naval intelligence), nos. 1 to 15.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

— Army registers, 1813 to 1896.
— "Roll of honor," names of deceased soldiers, 8 vols.
— Military information division (publications), nos. 1 to 11.
— Records of the war, 106 vols. and 35 atlases.
— Tests of metals and building materials, 1884 to 1894.
— King's geological survey, 7 vols. 4°.
— Wheeler's geographical survey, 7 vols. in 8. 4°.
— Medical and surgical history of the war, 6 vols. 4°.
— Surgeon-General's catalog, 17 vols.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

— Patent Office reports, 1790 to 1871, 61 vols.
— Patent Office *Gazette*, 1872 to 1895, 75 vols., and indexes.
— Patent Office specifications and drawings, 1875 to 1895. Monthly volumes (250 copies issued), 240 vols. l. 8°.

* Annual Reports of the six Executive Departments excluded.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.—*Continued.*

— Patent Commissioner's decisions, 1869 to 1894, 21 vols.
— Pension decisions, vols 1 to 7.
— Land Office decisions, vols. 1 to 22.
— Land Office reports (annual), 1860 to 1895.
— Land laws and "Public domain," 4 vols.
— Education Bureau, annual reports, 1868 (1st) to 1894.
— — circulars of information, 1867–'68, nos. 1 to 13. *Same*, 1870–'72, 11 issues, not numbered; 1873, nos. 1 to 5; 1874, nos. 1 to 3; 1875, nos. 1 to 8; 1876 (none issued); 1877, nos. 1, 2; 1878, nos. 1, 2; 1879, nos. 1 to 5; 1880, nos. 1 to 7; 1881, nos. 1 to 6; 1882, nos. 1 to 6; 1883, nos. 1 to 4; 1884, nos. 1 to 7; 1885, nos. 1 to 5; 1886, nos. 1, 2; 1887, nos. 1 to 3; 1888, nos. 1 to 7; 1889, nos. 1 to 3; 1890, nos. 1 to 3; 1891, nos. 1 to 9; 1892, nos. 1, 2; 1893, nos. 1 to 8; 1894, nos. 1, 2.
— Hayden's Survey of Territories. Annual reports, 1867–'78 (nos. 1–12).
Bulletins, vols. 1 to 6.
[Monographs], vols. 1 to 13. 4°.
Miscellaneous publications, nos. 1 to 12.
— Census of U. S., 1790, 1 vol.; 1800, 1 vol.; 1810, 1 vol.; 1820, 2 vols.; 1830, 1 vol.; 1840, 4 vols.; 1850, 4 vols., 1860, 5 vols.; 1870, 4 vols.; 1880, 22 vols.
— Geological Survey. Annual reports (Powell, etc.), 1879 to 1895.
Monographs, vols. 1 to 25. 4°.
Bulletins, nos. 1 to 135.
Mineral resources, 1883 to 1884. *Same* (old series), 1867–'76 (Browne. Taylor & Co.). None published from 1877–'82.

CONGRESS.

— American state papers, 1789–1837, 38 vols. folio.
— Annals of Congress, 1789–1824, 42 vols.
— Register of debates, 1824–1837, 29 vols.
— *Congressional Globe*, 1833–1873.
— *Congressional Record*, 1873–1896.
— Congressional directory, 1809–1896.
— Congressional documents (sheep bound), 1817–1889, 2600 vols.
— Congressional contested election cases, 1789–1893, 9 vols.
Civil Service Commission reports (1st) 1884 to 1895.
Court of Claims reports, vols. 1 to 31.
Opinions of Attorney-General, vols. 1 to 21.
Federal and state constitutions (Poore), 2 vols.
Trial of Guiteau, 3 vols.
International Medical Congress transactions, 1887, 5 vols.
National Academy of Sciences memoirs, vols. 1 to 7. 4°.
Silver. Report of Paris monetary conference, 1867.
— Report of silver commission, 1876.
— Report of Paris monetary conference, 1881.
— Report of Brussels monetary conference, 1892.
— Report of Berlin monetary conference, 1894.
Interstate Commerce Commission. Annual reports, 1887–'94.
— Statistics of railways, 1888 (1st) to 1894.
Labor Dept. Annual reports, 1st to 10th.
— Special reports, 1st to 8th.
Fish Commission. Annual reports, 1st to 19th.
— Bulletins, vols. 1 to 15.
Smithsonian Institution. Annual report, 1846–'94.
— Contributions to knowledge, vols. 1 to 29. 4°.
— Miscellaneous collections, vols. 1 to 38.
National Museum bulletins, nos. 1 to 48.
— Special bulletins, nos. 1 to 3. 4°.
— Proceedings, vols. 1 to 17.
Ethnology Bureau. Annual reports, 1879 (1st) to 1893.
— Contributions to N. Amer. ethnology, vols. 1 to 9. 4°.
American Historical Association reports, 1890–'94.
Schoolcraft's Indian tribes, 6 vols. 4°.
Wilkes' U. S. exploring expedition (original gov't ed. of the narrative), 5 vols. and atlas. 4°.

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## SCOVILLE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, CARLETON COLLEGE.

THE Scoville Memorial Library of Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., is the gift of the son and widow of the late James W. Scoville, of Oak Park, Ill., who had before his death expressed his purpose of erecting the building. The cost of the building was $25,000, but by careful planning and generous concessions on the part of some of the contractors, the building represents considerably more value than that sum would ordinarily indicate. Patton & Fisher, of Chicago, were the architects.

The building is 68 feet wide and 82 feet deep. The exterior is of pink Kasota limestone of remarkably even color, with roof of dark Vermont slate. The interior woodwork is of polished oak. The structure gives the effect of a one-story building with attic, but the front portion has two floors and the stack-building has three, including the basement, which is entirely above ground. The feature of the first floor is the large reading-room, with an elliptical arch opening into the book-room; the latter is lighted from three sides as well as from above, and has an iron and glass floor on a line with the reading-room floor. This, with the basement floor, gives two levels for books. A third level of iron and glass above the main floor will be added in the future. The front portion of the building contains in the second story a periodical reading-room and two seminary-rooms, and in the basement the unpacking-room, heating, and toilet-room. This portion of the building is of ordinary construction and is finished in oak, but the book-room, having iron floors and cases, has an automatic fireproof door to close the arched opening at the delivery-counter.

The main reading-room, really one room, gives the effect of two rooms, with central passage way to the delivery-counter, by the device of massive oak columns with heavily carved

capitals, supporting a heavy cornice. A fireplace with window seats at either side, and panels beneath and beside the windows at both ends of the room, are attractive features. Just back of the counter and within the rear building are the librarian's office and the cataloging-room. The estimated capacity of the stack-building is 90,000 volumes. The upper floor will not be put in, however, till the library grows to need it. The number of volumes is at present about 12,500. The building is heated by hot water and hot air, and lighted by electricity.

At the laying of the corner-stone, June 10, 1896, an address was given by Dr. J. K. Hosmer, of the Minneapolis Public Library, and when the building was turned over to the librarian on Nov. 6 a formal reception was tendered to the citizens of Northfield by the college faculty, at which a brief address was given by the Rev. Dr. D. N. Beach, of the same city.

## THE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN BROOKLYN.

THE work done during the past year by the Brooklyn Public Library Association to awaken public interest in the need of a free library, supported by taxation, in Brooklyn, N. Y., culminated on Jan. 14, when a largely-attended meeting was held in the Academy of Music, and addresses on the need of a public library in the city were made by Andrew Carnegie and other prominent men. It had been arranged to hold this meeting in connection with the joint meeting of the New York State Library Association and the New York Library Club, which this year was held in Brooklyn at the initiative of the local association, thus insuring a large attendance of librarians and library workers as well as of interested citizens. At its close the meeting took in the form of a reception to Mr. Carnegie and to the directors of the projected public library, whose appointment by the mayor, under the act of 1892, was announced early in the evening. The meeting opened at eight o'clock, the platform being well filled by members of the local association, prominent municipal officials, and a large representation of the visiting librarians.

R. Ross Appleton, city tax collector, and a member of the Brooklyn Public Library Association, acted as temporary chairman, and called the meeting to order a little after eight o'clock. He then read a letter from Mayor Wurster, regretting that illness prevented his attendance, and expressing approval of this "practical beginning of the work of providing a public library" for Brooklyn. The mayor in his letter then announced the appointment of the directors of the proposed library, as follows: "The first step in this movement was made by the enactment of a law in 1892, entitled 'an act to authorize the city of Brooklyn to establish and maintain a public library and reading-room in said city and to provide for the payment therefor and for the maintenance thereof.' Under the terms of this law an institution is provided for called 'The Public Library.' One of the sections of the act reads as follows: 'Whenever the common council, by resolution, shall have determined to establish and maintain a public library and reading-room under this act, the mayor of said city shall appoint nine directors for the same, and in addition to said number the mayor of said city, the president of said board of aldermen, the president of the board of education and the director of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences shall, by virtue of their respective offices, be directors of the said public library and reading-room.' Under the authority thus conferred, I hereby appoint the following nine directors: Hon. Charles A. Schieren, Hon. David A. Boody, Charles M. Pratt, Daniel W. McWilliams, Willis L. Ogden, R. Ross Appleton, Herbert F. Gunnison, John D. Kelley, and Charles N. Chadwick, to constitute, with the *ex-officio* directors, the first board in charge of such public library and reading-room. The movement which has led up to this has been largely fostered and encouraged by the women who have been identified with the Public Library Association, and I deem it desirable that they should be represented upon this first board of directors; but, upon consultation with those most active in the matter, I have come to the conclusion that it would be more desirable to enlarge the board to the number of, say 21, and thus permit a fuller representation of the entire community than is possible in so small a board. With the *ex-officio* members, including the Hon. J. Edward Swanstrom, Hon. David S. Stewart, Professor Franklin W. Hooper, and the mayor, the full board would then consist of 25, and I favor the passage by the legislature of an act allowing this increase to be made."

After reading the mayor's letter Mr. Appleton introduced as permanent chairman of the meeting ex-Mayor Boody, who delivered an address on the need of a public library in the city, and briefly discussed the legislation toward that end. He said in part: "In 1892 a bill was passed by the legislature permitting us to inaugurate this work when the common council by its resolution shall have determined that a public library and reading-room should be established and maintained. That bill authorized the mayor to name a board of nine directors, to which should be added the mayor, the president of the common council, the director of the Brooklyn Institute, and the president of the board of education. That bill also authorized the city to issue bonds to the amount of $600,000 for the promotion of this work.

"The common council has passed the necessary resolution, the mayor has performed his duty in naming the board of directors. When I have added to this brief statement a reference to the existence of the Brooklyn Library Association, organized for the purpose of promoting work of this kind and organized largely by a woman, Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, I have given a brief history of the work of the Brookly library up to the present moment. It is now in the hands of our citizens. The city government will undoubtedly follow their wishes. I

have heard it said that we are too poor as a city to bear the expense of erecting a free library. If municipal poverty should in reality be urged, then I should feel like replying if poverty stands in the way of our prosperity then we are too poor not to have a free library. We spend in this city annually for our public schools about $3,000,000. I believe it would be the best kind of economy to spend more and the result would be found in smaller budgets for reformatory purposes and in enhanced value to real property. But the great majority of our youths are taken from our public schools at an early age, when their tastes are being formed and their characters fashioned, at the very age when they need the supplement to the school, a free library. If it is expedient to spend so much money for our children until they reach the age of 12 and 14 and 16, is it not wise to do something when those ages are passed and when they are still passing through the formative years? Wealth has grave responsibilities which relate not only to its own preservation but to the welfare of those upon whose usefulness and intelligence and virtue it depends. Government has great responsibilities and duties which relate not only to justice and usefulness, but to its ultimate existence; and among these duties there is none more important than that which shall see that the minds of the people shall not starve for food. Education in its various forms provided by the government aided by individual wealth will do more than anything else to insure stability of government, respect for property and the happiness, contentment, and prosperity of the people."

Dr. Richard S. Storrs followed with a stirring address on the need of books in human life, of their effect upon character, and of the absolute necessity of a public library in a city that wishes to foster what is best in civic life. He spoke of the prevalence of bad literature in various forms, of what the public library could do to counterbalance its influence, and expressed the earnest hope that the Brooklyn Public Library might be an accomplished fact before the individuality of the city was merged into the new municipality of Greater New York. He was followed by Father E. W. McCarthy, of St. Augustine's Church, who said that Dr. Storrs was present to baptize the baby, and his own work was only to see that nothing was left undone. He spoke of the use made by Mr. Carnegie of his wealth, in the establishment of libraries, and of the great monument left to Brooklyn by Charles Pratt in the Pratt Institute, and dwelt upon the part that books played, not only in education, but in all the qualities that make for the elevation of the race. No private or subscription institution, he said, however well endowed or generously supported, could take the place of a free public library supported by the people for themselves.

Andrew Carnegie, the guest of honor of the evening, was then introduced by Mr. Boody as a man who had spent $5,000,000 in founding public libraries, and he received an enthusiastic welcome. Mr. Carnegie spoke with force and enthusiasm, and was listened to with unfailing interest.

"People," he said, "are divided into two great classes — the pessimistic and the optimistic — and whether one belongs to the former or to the latter depends chiefly upon whether he looks backward or forward. The most pessimistic must agree that in one respect, at least, human society has moved forward. It is not so very long ago since the individual concerned himself almost solely with himself. It was exceptional for the rich, or for those who could not be called rich but yet were better off than their neighbors, to pay much attention to the poverty by which they were surrounded. 'Am I my brother's keeper?' was the thought which characterized the age. Now, surely, we have changed all that, and the reverse is now true. It is the exception for any family having wealth or surplus income, not to feel, and to act upon the feeling, that they are, or should be to some extent, 'their brother's keeper'; that their abundance should be shared by their fellows less fortunate than themselves. There never was a time in the history of the world, we may well be persuaded, in which there were so many of the well-to-do conscious of their duties to their less fortunate fellows, or so many organizations managed and supported by so many contributions from so many people which have in view only the relief of poverty, the alleviation of suffering, or so much time devoted to these ends by those who lack ability to contribute money. They give their time and attention, which is better than money and counts for much more.

"Surely if this be so it seems to justify the suspicion that there is something wrong somehow, or somewhere, in the efforts we make or the modes we pursue. And may not the root of the trouble be found just here, that we labor trimming the branches here and there of the poisonous tree instead of laying the axe to the root. It is the easiest thing in the world to increase pauperism through indiscriminate giving or injudicious encouragement. No one can estimate the effect of the coin carelessly given to the beggar. It is an easy task to take from one class a given amount of labor and hand it over to another class, to which is thus given the adventitious aid which enables it to perform the labor for less, but the problem is not even touched until you increase the total amount of labor to be done. Of all the problems which a rich man has to study and solve we place as among the most difficult — how to do genuine good by expenditure of money, or time given for philanthropic purposes.

"He is entitled to be considered a wise man who so administers his surplus wealth as to advance the genuine good of his fellows, and not to sap their spirit of independence and self-respect. We have not yet reached the full noon of the bright day when men having surplus income beyond their needs will realize that to leave millions to children is not to benefit the recipients, but probably to injure them. If not ere the close of our own day,

then certainly during the next generation it will be held that the man who accumulates millions and hoards them until the last has been unmindful of the claims upon him in the community in which he has lived, and perhaps as the possessor of these millions has been false to his trusteeship. Such a man will die unwept, unhonored, and unsung; will die disgraced. The rich will act only as trustees to make better use of their wealth for the poor than the poor could possibly do themselves by massing it in some permanent form from which good influences will flow forever, instead of its being squandered in petty driblets by the masses for the gratification of temporary desires which man shares with the animals. Thus is to be solved, and thus only, the question of the rich and the poor. In the management of wealth for the public good the best test of its efficacy is, will this use of wealth help others to help themselves? Those of our race who are incurable and cannot be rendered self-supporting are the fit objects of the benevolence of the state or municipality. The avenues for individual wealth are fewer than before, but they lead directly to the great need — the prevention instead of the cure of the evils of human society. Now, there is one institution which, established in a community, must work good and not evil, which helps only those who help themselves, which attacks pauperism and want at the root, works not for cure but for prevention, about which no taint of demoralizing charity hovers, and that is what brings you here to-night — the free public library."

Mr. Carnegie then related an incident that occurred while he was last in Scotland. "I was attending last year," he said, "the opening of a free library in the little Scotch town that was the birthplace of my parents. In the addresses of the day the history of the library then established in its new building was related by one of the speakers. Its nucleus had been a little collection of books bought by three weavers with their hard-earned money and used as a library by them. Several times had this pitiful little library been moved from pillar to post, in one of its removals the weavers carrying the books in their own aprons and in coal-scuttles. Perhaps the thrill of deepest and purest happiness I have ever experienced came to me when I recognized in one of these library-founding weavers the name of my honored father. I know of no lineage that I would exchange for this." He reviewed the library records of the various cities of the United States, and vigorously urged the need of a free public library in Brooklyn, that, though perhaps furnished through private generosity, should be wholly maintained by the public for themselves.

Frederick B. Pratt, of the Pratt Institute, followed Mr. Carnegie with a brief and hopeful address on the prospects of the movement. He told how from a small beginning the Pratt Institute library had developed into an institution with a circulation of 300,000 v., he tendered the earnest wishes of the library he represented for the success of the cause, and promised every help that could be given by him to the new project. Dr. J. S. Billings, of the New York Public Library, followed with a review of the methods of consolidation adopted in New York for the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, and gave valuable suggestions for the practical work of the Brooklyn association.

Melvil Dewey was the last speaker, and he gave a stirring talk on the need of a public library as the corner-stone of the fabric of popular education. Without a library the system of public education was not complete. Study, he said, is in a way harmful unless kept in the right path, for a little knowledge is a dangerous thing, and reading, when not properly harnessed, runs riot with youthful minds. He inveighed vigorously against the sensational newspapers, and said it was a very grievous and serious condition of affairs when a Sunday sensational journal could have a circulation of 500,000 and an edition of 1000 copies of a good piece of literature should go begging.

This concluded the speaking, and the stage became at once a reception-room, most of the audience waiting for an opportunity to greet Mr. Carnegie and shake his hand.

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## THE BUFFALO LIBRARY TO BE A FREE LIBRARY.

At a meeting of the board of managers of the Buffalo Library on Dec. 11 an address was issued calling public attention to the need of a free library in Buffalo, and stating that with public co-operation and financial aid it might be practicable to reorganize the Buffalo Library to that end. The statement said, in part: "Of late years a feeling that the Buffalo Library must be made entirely free has been gaining ground rapidly. The public mind has been awakening to the fact that Buffalo is far behind other cities in the matter, and that it is largely losing, as a consequence, one of the greatest educational influences of the time.

"From its own resources the library can give no more to the public at large than it has given already. It can go no further in the direction of freedom than it has done, by opening its reading-rooms to every comer, for all uses of books within its own walls, and by distributing 1000 free tickets among pupils in the public schools. Thus far its revenues have barely permitted that degree of liberality, and henceforward it will lack the ability to go even so far in serving the public of Buffalo if it is not helped from other resources than its own."

It was stated that the resources of the library are now much below the amount necessary to administer it properly, and that help must be extended if it is to continue its work. The work done by free libraries in most of the large cities of the Union was briefly reviewed, and the need of such work in Buffalo was pointed out, and in conclusion it was intimated that the library might be maintained as a free city institution if the city would contribute to its support by

such provision as will make it free and properly enlarge its work.

The mayor, in his annual message, dated Jan. 4, gives considerable attention to the proposition of the library authorities, and urges its acceptance by the city. He says in part: "The subject of a proposed free library has been a leading topic of discussion in the public press and among our citizens for several weeks past. Our Buffalo Library, which has been built up and maintained as a private institution for many years, finds that through the operation of a law passed by the last legislature it will henceforth be deprived of a considerable amount of its annual revenue. This law requires the taxation of all property held by religious and benevolent institutions, not actually used for the purpose of such institutions. It affects the Hotel Iroquois property, which is owned by the library association, and has been a source of income to it. Hereafter the library association will be obliged to pay taxes upon this property, the amount being estimated at about $17,000 a year. Thus crippled as to its revenues, the friends of the library apply for municipal aid and offer in return to make the institution and all of its privileges absolutely free to the public.

"The executive for one believes that the time is ripe for the city to take this progressive step. A fine collection of books has been secured without public expense. It is well housed. It is well managed. To make its privileges free to all, nothing is asked but that the city should guarantee its running expenses, and provide reasonably for the enlargement of the collection. Considering that other cities have been obliged to create their free libraries, as well as maintain them, this seems to me a proposition most advantageous to the city of Buffalo. The subject will be brought formally to the attention of your honorable body at an early date. I trust that you will see your way clear to provide such funds as will be necessary to give us a public library in the fullest sense of the term."

On Jan. 7 a citizens' meeting was held in the library building to consider the proposed reorganization and a committee was appointed to further the work. At the city council meeting on Jan. 11 the matter was officially taken up by the aldermen, and a committee of three was appointed to work with the chief city officials and the citizens' committee as a conference committee in planning for the operation of the library as a free institution. The report of the conference committee was submitted to the board of aldermen on Jan. 18. It was a long statement, presenting fully the present needs of the library and the great necessity for a free public library in Buffalo. It reviewed the library advantages of other cities and strongly urged that the Buffalo Library be transferred to city control, recommending a yearly appropriation of $40,000 for its maintenance. A draft for an enabling act was appended. The report was accepted by a vote of 21 to two. There is little doubt that within a short time the Free Public Library of Buffalo will be an accomplished fact.

## THE A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION PRINTED CATALOG CARDS.

THE A. L. A. Publishing Section recently issued a circular to the chief libraries of the country, explaining the system of issue of printed catalog cards formerly carried on by the Library Bureau and now transferred to the charge of the Publishing Section, and giving details of a new plan by which it is hoped to furnish selected cards to the smaller libraries. It is hoped that more libraries will subscribe to the cards under the new arrangements, as the present number of subscribers is not sufficient to insure the continuance of the work. "The form of the cards will be practically the same as heretofore, but translator and editor cards will be made only where they seem essential to the satisfactory cataloging of the book. Title cards will be continued as at present. In the case of books of miscellaneous contents (volumes of essays, etc.), the contents will be printed when not too long to go on the card, and enough cards will be sent so that one may be put into the catalog under each topic treated. [The separate items in the contents may be underlined in red ink to correspond with the topic on the top line.] These cards will serve the same purpose as analytic entries, and are preferable to the ordinary form of analytic entry, since they give full information about the book."

The new proposition for the issue of selected cards to small libraries was briefly as follows: "Beginning January 1, 1897, it is proposed to send once or twice a week to the subscribing libraries two copies of a short-title list of the books cataloged by the Publishing Section. On these lists each librarian will mark the titles of books he is likely to buy, for which he wishes cards, and will return one copy to the Publishing Section, retaining the other as a record. Two weeks from the date of the list, cards will be printed to correspond to the orders then on hand, and will be immediately distributed. An interval of two weeks is allowed, that librarians may submit the lists if necessary to their book committees, and that there may be time for orders to come from the far west. After two weeks from the date of the list orders cannot be filled.

"Every effort will be made to get the titles from the publishers as long in advance as possible, so that the cards may be delivered about the same time as the publication of the books. In case the books are received before the cards, they need not be kept out of circulation, since the retained copy of the list will serve as a rough note and can bear in the margin the shelf mark, accession number, or any other item ordinarily placed on the card, till the card itself is received.

"Cards will be furnished of any size or style to match those already in use by the library, but libraries using a card lower than the standard (7 ½ cm.) have to sacrifice the class marks, dictionary headings, etc., which are given on the lower margin of the standard card. The price a year for the two copies of

the list will be $1. The price for the cards will be 10 cents a book regardless of the number or quality of cards. It is hoped that the larger libraries will continue to take all of the cards issued. If the number of such subscribers warrants, their cards will be sent immediately without waiting for orders to come in from the smaller libraries. The price for these will be at present, $7.50, $9, $10.50 per 1000, according to the quality of card used, but will be lessened as soon as the number of subscriptions warrants."

The circulars were sent out generally, and it was hoped that a sufficient number of answers would be received before the close of the year to allow a definite decision. As, however, only a few replies had been received by January 1, the Publishing Section has decided to defer the undertaking until the first of February, in the hope that by that time a sufficient number of subscriptions may have been received.

## UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LIBRARY CLASSES.

SINCE its foundation the University of Chicago has extended its instruction by organizing non-resident classes wherever six or more persons unite to pursue a course of study, and are willing to pay $6 apiece for 24 hours' instruction, and bear the travelling expenses of the instructor. During 1896 about 90 classes in a great variety of subjects were formed, and these subjects have now been extended to include instruction on the scope and use of the modern library. The plan is to work through women's clubs, teachers' clubs, and the staffs of the large libraries. The courses offered will necessarily be general and free from technical details, and they are intended to aid in an intelligent use of the library rather than to afford special library training. They would include information about travelling libraries; children's home libraries; and library schools; relations between libraries and schools, and between libraries and clubs; the use of reference-books; the use of catalogs; and such administrative principles as may be desired. Classes will meet once a week, or oftener if desired. The work will be adapted to the needs of the students, and will not necessarily be confined to the printed outline, which is merely suggestive. Courses are offered by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, librarian of the University of Chicago, and by Miss Katherine L. Sharp, director of the Department of Library Economy at the Armour Institute of Technology. Two courses were given at Cleveland, Ohio, in December, at the request of Mr. W. H. Brett, president of the American Library Association. A class at Denver, Colo., will begin its sessions in January; and classes at Geneva and at Geneseo, Ill., are forming. A class at the University of Chicago, under the instruction of Mrs. Dixson, began work on Jan. 8.

Further information regarding this work may be obtained by addressing the Class-study Secretary, University of Chicago.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* G. W. Cole, 473 Jersey Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

*TRANSACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.*

A MEETING of the executive board of the American Library Association was held at the Free Library of Philadelphia, Dec. 3, 1896.

Present, President Brett, Miss James, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Hayes.

The following letter from Mr. Cole was read:

473 JERSEY AVE., JERSEY CITY, N. J., NOV. 12, 1896.

*To the Executive Committee of the American Library Association.*

GENTLEMEN: As my plans take me abroad for the winter and possibly longer, I hereby tender my resignation as treasurer of the Association, and request that the vacancy caused by my resignation be filled at your earliest convenience. Yours very truly,

GEO. WATSON COLE.

Mr. Cole's resignation was accepted.

The secretary announced that Mr. Cole had turned the treasurer's books over to him, and that the funds, amounting to $1475.74, were in the hands of Mr. Whitney, chairman of the finance committee.

The president announced the next order of business to be the selection of place and time of the next meeting of the A. L. A.

Invitations were received from the Massachusetts Library Club to meet at or near Boston, and from the libraries and many citizens of Philadelphia to meet in that city.

After discussion of the subject, Miss James moved that the next meeting of the American Library Association be held in Philadelphia, beginning June 22, 1897.

Mr. Jones announced that this date would be satisfactory to the European trip committee.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

The president having been authorized to appoint the local committee, selected the following: Mr. Thomson, chairman, Free Library; Mr. Montgomery, secretary, Wagner Institute; Mr. Stone, Historical Society; Mr. Keen, University of Pennsylvania; Mr. Barnwell, Library Company of Phila.; Mr. Edmands, Mercantile Library; Miss Kroeger, Drexel Institute; Dr. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences; Dr. Horn, American Philosophical Society.

The secretary announced the resignation of Mr. Carr from the Library School committee, and that Mr. Larned declined to serve as chairman, which duty would have devolved upon him owing to the absence of Mrs. Elmendorf.

The president was authorized to fill the vacancies.

On motion, president and secretary were authorized to arrange the program for the meeting of 1897.

On motion, the secretary was directed to secure the papers six weeks before the meeting, and to print such as seemed advisable.

A letter from Miss Cutler was read suggesting that a session be given at the next confer-

ence to a discussion of the new books of the year, this feature having proved so interesting and profitable at the Cleveland conference.

The secretary announced having received letters from several chairmen of committees stating that progress was being made in this work, also several suggestions as to program.

The following communication was received:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec., 1896.

*To the Executive Board of the American Library Association:*

We, the undersigned, request you to take action leading to the incorporation of the American Library Association under the laws of the United States with headquarters in Washington.

MELVIL DEWEY,
HERBERT PUTNAM,
GEO. H. BAKER,
WM. I. FLETCHER.

Mr. Hayes made the following motion:

"*Resolved*, That it is desirable that the American Library Association be re-incorporated as soon as practicable under the laws of the United States with headquarters at Washington.

"*Resolved*, That the act of incorporation should, if practicable, include a provision that the council or a committee of the council of the American Library Association shall act as a board of visitors to the Library of Congress, and annually or as much oftener as specially requested to render a report of said visitation to the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, or other governing board of the library.

"*Resolved*, That the president appoint a committee of three members of the American Library Association, which committee shall investigate as to whether such re-incorporation may legally be secured upon application of this board. If such be found to be feasible such committee is authorized to draft a bill for such purpose, and the president and secretary are authorized to take all steps necessary to secure passage of the same.

"*Resolved*, That such bill shall, if practicable, include the provision as to the board of visitors above referred to."

After a full discussion the motion was unanimously adopted.

The president announced the appointment of Mr. Herbert Putnam, of the Boston Public Library, as chairman of this committee.

The secretary was directed to write to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Printing urging the passage by the Senate of the bill "to reduce the cost, increase the value, and simplify the methods of publication of Public Documents."

All the members of the board present expressed their approval of the "Catalogue of public documents" of the 53d Congress, just issued by the Superintendent of Documents, and the secretary was directed to express to Mr. Crandall their favorable opinion of the catalog, and their hope that he might be able to continue the catalog in the same form for all public documents, both past and future.

The secretary announced progress on the A. L. A. handbook.

The resignation of Mr. Larned from the primer committee was read, and the president directed to fill the vacancy.

On motion the sum of $200 was appropriated for the necessary expenses of the Publishing Section.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of the members of this board that the American Library Association at its meeting in June, 1897, should arrange for the payment in the future of the expenses of the members of the board in attending meetings, and should make a proper allowance for the expenses of the secretary."

On motion, $50 was appropriated for clerical assistance for the treasurer.

On motion, Mr. Charles Knowles Bolton, of the Brookline Public Library, Brookline, Mass., was unanimously elected treasurer.

On motion, adjourned.

R. P. HAYES, *Secretary*.

*SPECIAL NOTICE.*

CLEVELAND, OHIO, January, 1897.

A SPECIAL meeting of the American Library Association is hereby called to be held on Saturday, February 6, 1897, at 2.30 p.m., in Room 15, Hamilton Hall, Columbia University, New York City.

The special business is to consider the reincorporation of the American Library Association under the laws of the United States, as stated in the following request:

"WM. H. BRETT, Esq.,
*President American Library Association.*

"In accordance with the by-laws of the association, the undersigned members of the A. L. A. request you to call a special meeting of the association at the earliest date practicable, to consider an act upon the following questions, to wit:

"Whether it be expedient to reincorporate the association under the laws of the United States with headquarters at Washington, D. C., and with a provision, if feasible, that the association, through its council or otherwise, shall from time to time act as a visiting board of the National Library (Library of Congress), together with such other provisions as may seem advisable involving relations with appropriate federal departments.

"HERBERT PUTNAM,
"MARGARET D. MCGUFFEY,
"WM. I. FLETCHER,
"NINA E. BROWNE,
"THORVALD SOLBERG,
"JAMES L. WHITNEY,
"HILLER C. WELLMAN,
"WM. C. LANE,
"CHAS. C. SOULE,
"F. RICHMOND FLETCHER."

WM. H. BRETT, *President*,
RUTHERFORD P. HAYES, *Secretary*.

Jan. 1, 1897.

*EUROPEAN POST-CONFERENCE TRIP.*

THE European trip committee issues the following report of progress, Dec. 21:

It was evident to the committee that the objects to be kept in mind in planning the trip were:

1. To become acquainted with as many English librarians as possible, and to see as much as possible of English methods of library administration.

2. To visit as many places of historic and literary interest as possible and also others attractive for their natural beauty.

Correspondence with Mr. MacAlister, secretary of the L. A. U. K., showed that in order to secure a good attendance of English librarians the conference should be held not later than the week beginning July 12.

The following itinerary has therefore been arranged:

JUNE 26. *Saturday.* Leave Boston.
JULY 5 *or* 6. *Monday or Tuesday.* Arrive Liverpool.
7. *Wednesday*, p.m. To Manchester.
8. *Thursday.* In Manchester. Evening to Birmingham.
9. *Friday.* In Birmingham.
10. *Saturday.* Kenilworth, Warwick, Stratford, and to Leamington.
11. *Sunday.* In Leamington.
12. *Monday.* To London.
13–16. *Tuesday to Friday.* Conference.
17–23. English post-conference under the conduct of the L. A. U. K., probably visiting Salisbury (spend Sunday), Stonehenge, Wells, Glastonbury, Cardiff, Bristol, Bath, and Reading, reaching Oxford Friday evening, July 23.
24. *Saturday.* In Oxford.
25. *Sunday.* In Oxford or London.
26–30. In London or elsewhere as suits individual tastes.
31. *Saturday.* To Cambridge.
AUG. 1. *Sunday.* In Cambridge.
2. *Monday.* To Ely, Lincoln, and Sheffield.
3. *Tuesday.* In Sheffield.
4. *Wednesday.* To Leeds and York.
5. *Thursday.* In York.
6. *Friday.* To Durham and Newcastle.
7. *Saturday.* To Melrose, Abbotsford, Dryburgh, and Edinburgh.
8. *Sunday.* In Edinburgh.
9. *Monday.* In Edinburgh.
10. *Tuesday.* To Glasgow *via* Stirling, Trossachs, and Loch Katrine.
11. *Wednesday.* In Glasgow. P.M. to Liverpool.
12. *Thursday.* A.M. in Liverpool or Chester. P.M. sail.
22. *Sunday.* Due at Boston.

The itinerary may be summarized as follows: A week between Liverpool and London, allowing an opportunity to see some of the leading libraries before the conference; the conference; a post-conference trip with the L. A. U. K. and under their management; a free week which may be spent in London, in the English country, or in a trip to Paris; and a two weeks' trip up the east coast visiting the leading cathedral cities and also some of the larger public libraries. It will be noticed that over a day each is spent in Oxford and Cambridge. The trip has been kept within the two months originally planned, but the early date of return will doubtless lead many to spend an extra week in a trip to the English lakes, Wales, Ireland, or elsewhere. Such trips can be made more comfortably, and probably as cheaply, in small parties.

The travel arrangements will be in charge of Henry Gaze & Sons' tourist agency. The net cost will be about $350. A circular giving details of the itinerary, exact cost, suggestions as to clothing, etc., will be distributed in a few weeks, at which time an advance deposit will be called for. The present circular is sent out at the earliest possible moment, that members of the A. L. A. may know what is being planned by their committee.

WILLIAM C. LANE, Boston, *Chairman.*
GARDNER M. JONES, Salem, *Secretary.*
WM. I. FLETCHER, Amherst, Mass.
MISS C. M. HEWINS, Hartford Ct.
MISS M. W. PLUMMER, Brooklyn, N.Y.

THE *Library*, in its December number, contains a well-written article on "The American Library Association and the international conference," giving a brief history of the A. L. A., its organization and work. The paper is accurate in detail and animated by a pleasant spirit of friendliness. It will be followed in later issues by "notices of the life and work of some of the chief members of the A. L. A., especially those who will probably be among the delegates to the international conference."

### *A. L. A. HANDBOOK.*

THE A. L. A. Handbook for 1897 will be ready for distribution about January 20. Two copies will be sent to each member, one of which should be used to get a new member of the A. L. A. Extra copies may be obtained by notifying the secretary.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.
MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.
NEW YORK, PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.
OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.
VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.
WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

THE first biennial report of the Wisconsin commission for 1895–96, just issued (130 p. O.), is a model of its kind and should prove widely useful not only as illustrating what a library commission can accomplish, but as affording information and instruction as to details of technical library work. It contains

a brief history of the organization and proceedings of the commission; reports of the various meetings of the state library association since its organization in February, 1891; Mr. Larned's stirring address on "The mission and missionaries of the book"; an admirably suggestive "Symposium on library details," by six of the advanced pupils of Armour Institute library class; Miss Eastman's suggestive paper on "The child, the school, and the library," first printed in the 1896 school number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL; a striking account by Mr. Hutchins of what has been accomplished by "Traveling libraries in Wisconsin"; a full report on "Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science," by Miss Maude A. Earley; "Legal and statistical aspects of Wisconsin libraries," by Florence E. Baker, and a summary of "State library commissions," by Miss Stearns, to whose enthusiastic energy the commission owes so much. It is illustrated with many views of Wisconsin libraries, but none of these illustrations compare in interest to the five pictures of the Stout travelling libraries and their temporary stations in little rural communities.

Although the report covers nominally a biennial period, the commission has really been in existence but one year. It was authorized by the legislature of 1895, but as the commissioners were not named by the governor until late in the autumn the body was not organized until December. Besides Mr. Hutchins and Miss Stearns, the other (*ex-officio*) members of the commission are Dr. C. Kendall Adams, president of the state university; J. Q. Emery, state superintendent of instruction, and R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the state historical society. Within the year of the commission's existence free circulating libraries have been established in five towns, and two others have voted a tax for library purposes; the 30 travelling libraries established by Senator Stout in Dunn county have been in constant use, being managed from the Mabel Tainter Library in Menomonie, Wis.; 20 similar libraries have been given by J. D. Witter to Wood county, and are being sent out from the Grand Rapids Public Library, both these collections having been selected and set on foot by Mr. Hutchins; in dozens of communities libraries that had been neglected and half forgotten have been revived to vigorous life through the example and precept of the commission; in dozens of others public sentiment is being rapidly aroused on the subject; and the agencies enlisted for the advancement of library interests include a newly-formed library section of the state teachers' association, a travelling library association, organized in November, 1896, and co-operative work on the part of the women's clubs of the state. This is a remarkable showing, and the rapidity with which these results have been brought about is most astonishing of all. Wisconsin has become almost within a twelve month not only a library model to the other states of the west, but an example to many of the eastern states where the library movement has never taken such a strong foothold or awakened such general interest.

## State Library Associations.

### *LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE regular meeting of the Library Association of Central California was held Nov. 13 in the Mechanics' Institute. President Rowell presided, and with a few remarks announced the topic of the evening, "Libraries and literature of the Orient," and introduced William Emmette Coleman, member of the American Oriental Society, Royal Asiatic Society, etc., paying a graceful tribute to the erudition of this distinguished orientalist. Mr. Coleman gave a summary of Hindu literature from the earliest Vedic times to the present, followed by an account of the libraries of India. He described those in the great cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, etc., and gave typical illustrations of the nature of the libraries in the smaller cities and towns. The character of the literature of Ceylon and Tibet was indicated, and their library systems outlined. Of Hindu literature Mr. Coleman said: "Vast in extent, marvellous in complexity, unique in transcendental subtlety, grotesque in elaboration, wearisome in repetition, the sacerdotal spirit permeates and dominates it all. Hindu science, philosophy, poetry, law, fiction, music, grammar, rhetoric, mathematics, dictionaries, all is of a more or less religious character. In metaphysical subtlety and analysis, and in exaggerations and repetitions, the Hindu mind to me represents the intellect gone to seed."

Prof. John Fryer, of the University of California, followed with a scholarly and most interesting account of the "Libraries and literature of China." Prof. Fryer opened with an historical sketch of Chinese writing and literature from 2000 B.C. He divided the literature into four great classes: Classics, history, philosophy and the arts, poetry and polite literature. Confucius and his disciples were dwelt on at some length, although the speaker said their teachings might be summarized in the phrase, "Walk only in the trodden paths." Prof. Fryer gave a vivid picture of the many destructions of books by different emperors of China, and particularly that ordered by the great Chung Wang 246 B.C. This enlightened monarch excepted in his destruction only works on agriculture, architecture, divination, and medicine, as being of benefit to mankind. All other branches of literature were considered by him an encouragement to idleness and dangerous to the state.

Professor Fryer illustrated the paper with many examples of Chinese printing and binding, from his own library, his long residence in China having given him unusual opportunities for collecting.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

In accordance with its custom of making one of its monthly meetings each year a social one, the December meeting of the Library Association of Central California was held on the evening of Dec. 11, about the table in the banquet-room of the California Hotel. Including members and guests there were 36 persons present. At the conclusion of the supper President Rowell made some happy remarks, and then introduced Mr. Herbert C. Nash, the recently appointed librarian of Stanford University, who in a very entertaining manner related some of his first impressions and experiences in the library world. He was followed by Mr. A. S. Hallidie, who gave an interesting sketch of the Mechanics' Institute of San Francisco, with which he has been identified from its foundation. This institution, which now has a membership of more than 4700 and a library of 73,000 volumes, was established in Dec., 1854. The library opened with four volumes on its shelves, including a copy of the Bible, a "Cyclopædia of architecture," dictionary, and "Curtis on conveyances." Its usefulness was considerably impaired when some one stole the Bible and the dictionary. The institution rallied from this severe loss, however, and has enjoyed since that time growth and prosperity almost without interruption.

The literary exercises closed with a paper by Mr. A. B. Davis, who, in his extracts from such sources as Pliny, Sir John Maundeville, Dr. Johnson's Dictionary, and the Newgate Calendar, showed how much amusement can be gleaned in out-of-the-way places where it is not usually sought for.

Seated at the table were: Mr. A. S. Hallidie, Mr. Herbert C. Nash, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Rowell, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. L. P. McCarty, Prof. W. D. Armes, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Clark, Andrew Cleary, J. W. Harbourne, H. F. Peterson, Miss Green, Horace Moore, Miss Wade, W. F. Clowdsley, Mrs. E. J. C. Gilbert, Wm. Emmette Coleman, Miss Klink, John G. Brick, Miss Sawyer, Dr. G. A. Danziger, F. J. Teggart, and others.

Geo. T. Clark, *Secretary pro tem.*

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Ritchie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

The December meeting of the Colorado Library Association was held in the Coburn Library of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Dec. 11, 1896, at 8 p.m. The audience was large and enthusiastic, and the various papers were received with interest and applause.

After the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the association the Rev. W. F. Slocum, president of Colorado College, presented a paper on "The relation of the college library to the town library." He was followed by Mrs. A. J. Peavey, state superintendent of public instruction, who delivered an address on "District libraries." "A library building for a growing city" was then described by J. C. Dana, of the Denver Public Library; and "The power of the book" was the subject of an interesting paper by Louis R. Ehrich, of Colorado Springs.

Previous to the meeting the members of the association were entertained at a reception by President and Mrs. Slocum, of Colorado College.

At the previous meeting of the association a revised constitution was adopted, and the matters of library legislation and the appointment of a state library commission were discussed. The association is giving especial attention to the last two subjects, and it will this winter, as part of the year's work, urge the passage by the state legislature of a law creating a state library commission.

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. K. Stetson, Public Library, New Haven.

*Secretary:* Miss M. A. Richardson, Public Library, New London.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. F. W. Robinson, Otis Library, Norwich.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Thomas Nelson, Public Library, East St. Louis, Ill.

*Secretary:* Miss E. L. Moore, Withers Public Library, Bloomington.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

The second meeting of the Illinois State Library Association was held at the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Nov. 27, 1896. This meeting was held largely in the interests of the formation of an Illinois state library commission, and to make plans for the formation of a library section of the Illinois State Teachers' Association. In the absence of the president, Mr. Thomas Nelson, the first vice-president, Miss Savillah Hinrichsen, presided.

After certain business matters were disposed of and a few fitting remarks had been spoken by the presiding officer, the first paper on the program, "History of library commissions," was read by Miss Cornelia Marvin, of the Armour Institute of Technology. Miss Marvin gave a complete history of the commissions as established in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Ohio, and then summarized her paper into the following salient points: "The commissions usually consist of five members, who serve for five years without pay. They are appointed by the governor, with the exception of Connecticut, where the appointment is made by the State Board of Education. Ohio has but three commissioners. It is not usual to specify as to what persons shall compose the committee. In Massachusetts the board has consisted of leading librarians and literary people. Wisconsin and New Hampshire provide for certain state officers on the board.

"The expenses allowed are usually $500, Vermont only allowing $300, and Ohio being

most liberal in appropriating $1000. The eastern states, as a rule, appropriate $100 for the establishment of a free public library in any town fulfilling the conditions of the law, Connecticut alone allowing $200, and no provision being made in Wisconsin. Excepting in Massachusetts, where an annual report is required, the law provides for biennial reports, usually printed as a state document. The New Hampshire report is a supplement to that of the state librarian. The contents are uniform, usually consisting of the library laws of the state, historical and statistical matter, and suggestions as to library methods."

This was followed by a paper on the "Relations of schools and libraries," by Miss Mae E. Schreiber, of the Normal School, Milwaukee. Miss Schreiber, whose work in connection with library reading has attracted so much attention, was very enthusiastic and gave inspiration to others in the following:

"Each [the librarian and the teacher] needs the other to carry on her work to best advantage. The teacher must be the inspirer, the finder of interests, the guide to the individual; the librarian must stand ready to meet the demands inspired by the teacher, and must do what she can to keep enthusiasm alive. Both working together may, through the children, reach out into the community.

"The teacher must arouse interest and create new interests. She must be a reader, a frequenter of the library, where she may help both librarian and children. She must teach children how to read and to get the best there is in a book, not by preaching or examining, but by heart-to-heart talks over good things found. She must appeal to children's sympathies, help them to admire and to love the noblest. She, as well as the librarian, ought to be trained for this work."

Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, president of Armour Institute of Technology, entered the room at this point, and in a few happy remarks gave to the association a hearty welcome, expressing his appreciation of the efforts that were being made by the association and assuring it of his sympathy and co-operation with them.

Miss Ahern presented a paper on the "Library Section of the N. E. A.," giving a history of the formation of that section at Buffalo last July, and outlining the work that the section hopes to accomplish in the future.

Mr. Homer Bevans, president of the Illinois State Teachers' Association, then spoke at some length upon the "Relations of schools and libraries." He said in part: "To my mind the centre of every community should be the school-house and the operations of the school; but these operations ought to be made more extensive than they have been in the past. Nobody looks to the school-house for information as to the telegraphic reports of the results of the election. Nobody looks to the school-house for any information of the Deity; no information as to salvation. No, there is one thing left to the school-house, and that is, to take care of the babies. Political information we get at the saloon, and religious information we get at the church. We simply learn to read some words and go out and call it education, and I am glad to see an attempt of the library people to do something to make use of the school-house, or if it is the other way, to enlarge the functions of the school-house. There ought to be telephonic communications with the school-house. All roads ought to lead to the school-house, as all roads once met in Rome. The state teachers' association will be glad to welcome the library people to its ranks."

This was followed by a paper on the "Present status of school libraries in Illinois," by Mr. W. W. Bishop, of the Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston. Mr. Bishop gave much practical information. The present school law provides for the purchase of libraries and apparatus from the school funds remaining after all necessary expenses are paid, no provisions being made for appropriations for library purposes in making up the estimates. In giving data for the condition of libraries in the district schools of Illinois, there was found to be such a tremendous increase of the year 1895 over 1894, in the number of districts reporting libraries, in the number of volumes of these libraries, and in the number of volumes purchased, that the figures were regarded as almost untrustworthy; but as there were a number of prominent educators present who corroborated the statements made, there can be no doubt of their correctness. The Illinois Pupils' Reading Circle, under the direction of the State Teachers' Association, has been very instrumental in awakening the interest of teacher, child, and parent in the matter.

"Some of the needs and difficulties of the country districts" was the subject of a paper by Miss Milner, of the Illinois State Normal University. Miss Milner gave a number of interesting and amusing incidents gathered from the personal experience of teachers, and showed that the difficulties to be overcome are manifold. The people themselves do not always realize the want of that which they have never had.

This was followed by the report of the committee on the state commission by the chairman, Mr. A. H. Hopkins, of the John Crerar Library, Chicago. Mr. Hopkins called attention to the circular which had been issued in accordance with instructions received at the last meeting of the association, urging compliance with the demands contained therein. He then presented the draft of a bill for presentation at the coming session of the state legislature, also in accordance with instructions. The bill read as follows:

"Be it enacted by the people of the state of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, that:

"Section 1. The governor shall appoint five residents of the state who shall form a board of library commissioners. One member of said board shall be appointed for the term of five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year; and thereafter the term of office of the commis-

sioners shall be five years. All vacancies on said board, whether occurring by expiration of term or otherwise, shall be filled by the governor. The board shall annually elect a chairman and a secretary.

"Section 2. The board shall give advice and counsel to libraries in the state, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and administering such libraries, the selection of books, cataloging, and other details of library management. The board may also send its members to aid in organizing new libraries or in improving those already established. The board shall make an annual report to the governor, and the usual number of copies of this report shall be published as other official reports are published.

"Section 3. No member of the board shall receive any compensation for services as a member, but travelling expenses of members in attending meetings of the board or in visiting or establishing libraries, and other incidental and necessary expenses connected with the work of the board shall be paid, provided that the whole amount shall not exceed the sum of $1000 in any one year. All bills incurred by the board or by its members under this law shall be certified by the chairman and secretary of the board to the Secretary of State, who shall cause the same to be paid from the state treasury, and there is hereby annually appropriated from the general funds in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, a sufficient sum to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

"Section 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication."

The discussion that followed, led by Mrs. Dixson, of the University of Chicago, was spirited, to the point, and participated in by many. Mr. J. W. Menninger, assistant superintendent of public instruction, and other prominent educators of the state, spoke enthusiastically on the subject, offering their cordial support in the establishment of a library section of the Illinois State Teachers' Association at the coming meeting of the association, Dec. 29–31, at Springfield. Owing to the fact that so many educators have manifested so much interest in the movement, it is more than possible that the section will soon be an established fact.

Before adjournment of the morning session Miss Hinrichsen gave information in regard to another bill which is to be presented to the state legislature at its session in January; its object is to secure the appointment of a library commission composed of six persons, who shall be non-partisan, who shall have charge of the libraries under state control, to promote the system of civil service in the *personnel* of the various library forces.

The afternoon session opened with an address by Mr. John T. Ray, of the board of directors of the Illinois Pupils' Reading Circle. Mr. Ray gave an interesting account of the Circle and the good work that it was accomplishing, commended highly the idea of a state commission, and gave assurance of his hearty support in the formation of the library section of the state teachers' association. He brought out many important points of connection between the school teacher and the librarian.

Colonel Thompson, director of the Evanston Public Library, followed with a talk on the library and the school, telling of the close connection between the two as it exists in Evanston and the good results obtained from the joint meetings of the librarians and teachers.

After further discussion the report of the committee on the state library commission was accepted, committee discharged, and the report referred to the executive committee for their consideration and for preparation of the bill for presentation to the legislature, provided the committee found it advisable. For this purpose the executive committee was increased by three members of the original committee, making a committee of seven.

Miss Sharp followed with a report of the Bureau of Information. The report was very complete and clearly demonstrated the need of a state commission. The work as done by the bureau was carefully outlined; some of the inquiries received by the bureau were read, and the information given included a statement of the legal mode of procedure to be followed by libraries in obtaining state publications, the scope and functions of the state library and of the state historical library, proposed work of the library section of the state teachers' association when established, and an explanation of the library extension lectures to be given by the class-study department of the University Extension division of the University of Chicago.

The formation of this department has been under discussion for some time, and has just been definitely decided upon by President Harper, of the University of Chicago. According to the rules of the department each course must consist of at least 12 lessons of two hours each. The following topics are suggested for a possible course, in order to make the plan clear:

"1. Library extension. 2. Library training. 3. Home libraries. 4. Travelling libraries. 5. Libraries and schools. 6. Libraries and clubs. 7. Bookbuying. 8. Bookbinding. 9–12. Use of reference-books; or, Administrative principles.

"The class-study department of University Extension is best suited to this work, because it will form a class if six people desire it and will support it, and the subject is too new to justify support in a popular lecture course. Financial support means that each pupil shall pay $6 for the course of 12 lessons, and that the class, if outside of Chicago, shall pay the teacher's travelling expenses. The plan has been proposed to several towns, and each answer expressed interest and gave assurance that it was needed, and one city has guaranteed two classes or more and wishes the work to begin at once. The library is not to train library assistants nor to interfere with nor criticise local

libraries, but rather to furnish information in regard to the work of a comparatively new profession — information which may help people in their studies or which may incline them to help their local library. Students will probably be drawn from women's clubs, teachers, and high school pupils. It is to be the means of giving the people information in regard to the scope of library work and the use of libraries without touching technical details."

The report was accepted, and the thanks of the association extended to Miss Sharp for giving her time and energy to this work.

Mr. Willcox followed with a most comprehensive paper on the "Illinois state library law, and what amendments to the same have been suggested by the experience of 24 years." Mr. Willcox framed the original state law, and consequently was well qualified to discuss the question in hand. The library law passed by the legislature of Illinois in 1872 was the first free public library law placed on the statute-book of any state in the Union — the pioneer and model of many library laws adopted by other states since.

Mr. Willcox considered the six important points which the law so carefully and wisely provides for, viz.: 1. Where shall we lodge the power of initiative in starting a public library: in the voters of the city at a general election or in the city council? 2. Shall the tax be mandatory or permissive? 3. Shall the library board have exclusive control of library funds? 4. Of how many members should the library board consist? 5. How shall the election or appointment of the nine members of the library board be made? 6. When shall the library year end?

He said that in his opinion the Illinois law could be amended to advantage in two particulars only: 1. By restoring to library boards absolute control over library funds. 2. By allowing more time in which to prepare the annual report — perhaps by making the year end with the calendar year, Dec. 31.

There was a thorough discussion of the points brought out by Mr. Willcox by many of the librarians, and there seemed to be a consensus of opinion favorable to the amendments suggested by him and of these only. The further consideration of this matter was left to the committee of seven appointed on the state commission.

At the opening session the paper of Mr. H. W. Milligan on the "Relations of a college library to the student" was read by Mr. Bicknell, of Champaign.

After transacting a little business the meeting adjourned for the social side of the session, and a pleasant two hours were spent enjoying the hospitality of Miss Sharp and the young ladies of the department of library economy of the Institute, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. At the morning session the colors of the association were chosen — white and purple.

The regular annual meeting of the association will be held Wednesday, Jan. 20, 1897, at Springfield. EVVA L. MOORE, *Secretary.*

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago Ill.

IT was decided at a meeting of the executive board of the Indiana Library Association, last October, to make the annual meeting of the association this year a library institute: *viz.*, to give the larger part of the time to instruction in modern library methods and administration. In accordance with this view arrangements were made with Miss Cornelia Marvin, of the department of library economy of Armour Institute, Chicago, for a series of lessons along these lines. The library institute was well advertised throughout the state, and when it opened on Tuesday morning, Dec, 29, there was an attendance of 60 persons more or less actively engaged in library work. This being the first library institute on record, there was some curiosity as to what would be done.

After a few remarks by the president, R. F. Kautz, and the secretary's report, the first work, "Ordering and accessioning," was begun by Miss Marvin. She said the selection of books was a matter to be left almost entirely to the librarian. It is important that the public be given a chance to suggest books, as it will give them a sort of proprietary interest in the library and lead to cheerful co-operation. Different blanks and other means of securing suggestions were then explained. The proportion of classes of books as given in the A. L. A. primer were explained and *Public Libraries* was recommended, though local needs might modify it. Buy books often in small quantities; let the public have books while they are fresh and new; buy well-bound books, as it is cheaper in the end; advertise by bulletin boards and in the local papers the arrival of new books. Buy from one agent, who will grow to look out for the interests of the library. Write the order plainly, giving the title, author, and publisher, and if possible, price.

As to accessioning, the speaker said that after the book had been paid for and received, it was not properly part of the library until it had been accessioned. Properly kept, the accession book was a record of all books that had ever come into the library, this book and the one showing books withdrawn being a record of the books on the shelves. She urged the importance of putting the accession number safely in the book where it could not be destroyed. She discussed at some length the technical part of the work. the arrangement of the books, the proper labelling of the volumes, method of cutting the leaves, marking, and so forth. Members of the institute were furnished with prepared samples of suggested forms for every part of the work of the institute.

This was followed by a discussion as to the method of ordering serials and periodicals, and what ones to have. It was conceded, to start

with, that most medium-sized libraries would have from $100 to $150 a year to spend in periodical literature.

The question was, what would this money buy? Nearly everybody present took part in this discussion, and after an hour's deliberation the list recommended was as follows: *Atlantic, Harper, Century, Scribner, Harper's Round Table, Youth's Companion, St. Nicholas, Arena, Forum, North American Review, Review of Reviews, Harper's Weekly, Outlook, McClure's, London Graphic, Modern Art, Nineteenth Century, Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, Critic, Dial, Nation, Publishers' Weekly, Kindergarten Magazine, Popular Science Monthly, Scientific American, Engineering, Art Amateur, Life, Outing, Ladies' Home Journal.* The list price of this combination of periodicals was found to be $119.25, which, with the discount allowed by the publishers to the public libraries, would amount to about $100.

The afternoon session was fully occupied with a discussion of methods of classification and cataloging, Miss Marvin closely following the line of instruction in these matters as practised in the library schools. The general principles of classification were brought out, fixed and relative location dwelt upon, and the D. C. and E. C. explained and compared. Each was illustrated by many examples, and general directions as to the study of and adaptation were given.

The card catalog in its simplest form was taken up and general rules and principles mentioned. The various cases and cards were spoken of and suggestions given to beginners as to catalog literature and library handwriting. Following this was practical work of cataloging one book which required all of the generally used cards and forms.

Tuesday evening the members of the Institute and their friends met Miss Catherine Merrill in the parlor of the Denison and listened to a highly enjoyable paper by her on "The art of criticism." It was the treat of the whole meeting to the librarians. After a long life of study in the field of literature, Miss Merrill gives a sweetly gracious but strong inspiration to those who hear her to follow in the beautiful path along which she has gone and which no doubt has helped to make her the gentle, refined, helpful but strong character whom every one that knows her loves.

Wednesday's session opened with an increased attendance and interest. The first topic taken up was that of the shelf department. The work here followed closely the topics given in the outline under 025.8 in the D. C. The Cutter author numbers were explained, and care of maps, clippings, pamphlets, etc., treated. The shelf list in various forms was discussed and the manner of taking inventory described. Some time was given to the care and cataloging of government documents and every librarian was urged to study the reports and indexes relating to them. The subject of charging was first presented in a general way, mentioning the importance of good service in this department, the chief points of good charging systems, and the value of statistics which might be gathered here. Two systems, one adapted to a small public library and one to a college library, were explained in detail and illustrated by samples.

The speaker urged all librarians to collect samples and study methods of the libraries about them in this as well as in other departments.

The work on binding and repair consisted of a brief talk on binding materials, lettering, and the process of sending books to the binder, also considering the library preparation and treatment of the books when returned.

Wednesday afternoon's program had been arranged for the interest of those not engaged in specially technical library work. A large number of school people and club members were present.

A. V. Babine, librarian of Indiana University, read one of the most interesting papers of the session on the problems and possibilities of a college library. While, perhaps, the subject was an old one, it was presented in an interestingly fresh way by Mr. Babine's subtle but mild sarcasm, levelled at the well-known weaknesses of library architecture, administration, and purposes. Among other things he said: "In the problems of a college library that of having a suitable building is the foremost. The plan of the building should be approved by one or more (better more) practical librarians. It is easier to enumerate the requisites of a library building than to find a library possessing them. Oftentimes a building is erected by one who never made a study of library architecture, but who, with infatuated pride, fills the landscape with towers and turrets, arches and curvings, gargoyles and dragons, who throws in the floors and sumptously clumsy fireplaces, who calls a building fireproof with a heating plant in the basement, and who puts a plate over the entrance, reading, 'Library hall—date.'"

A college library is next to useless without a good dictionary catalog, fully representing the contents of the stacks, but this catalog should not take the place of indexes to individual books. The staff of a college library must possess many qualifications, but above all, familiarity with foreign languages. Improvements in spelling foreign languages ought not be indulged in, and least of all before their grammars are mastered or before titles are cut down with due respect for sense and meaning. The importance of the staff's service and its right to an independent existence must be recognized by the college authorities. A college library ought to be, to an extent, a library school. It should not refuse to give instruction in detail of library work. The bibliographical equipment of a college library should fully satisfy its own practical needs and serve as a sample collection for those interested in library work. Mr. Babine closed his address with a stirring appeal to men of means for the endowment and equipment of a college library in Indiana that shall redeem the lack of munificence now existing along that line.

Mr. Babine was followed by Miss Merica Hoagland, president of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs, who gave an interesting and suggestive talk on the way in which clubs might aid in the establishment of libraries and on the strengthening of their influence and helpfulness after they were established.

This paper was followed by the presentation of the outline of a library bill proposed by the teachers' committee, to be presented to the next legislature. It was given by Supt. Goss, of Indianapolis, and provoked much discussion. It seemed to subordinate the library side of the question in relation to the school side too much to meet the wants and wishes of many present. Rutherford P. Hayes was next introduced to the association, and expressed the opinion that it was a better plan to divorce the library management from the schools. Library committees should be separate bodies, free from school authorities' supervision. He then spoke of the plans and purposes of the A. L. A. and urged an interest in it by those present. He gave an account of library commissions and their work, particularly of the Ohio commission. The expression of opinion at the close of the session showed that his view of library management was more favored than that presented by the teachers.

Wednesday night the usual reception was given the librarians and their friends by the Bowen-Merrill Co. in the Commercial Club parlors. Mr. Hayes, Miss Hoagland, and Miss Marvin were the guests of honor. Refreshments were served and a delightful company lingered till a late hour.

The session was opened Thursday morning by Miss Marvin on reference work. This was a general talk on the objects and methods of reference work. The fact that the books were to be brought to the readers, as well as the readers to the books was emphasized. Work with individuals, schools, clubs, factories, etc., was dwelt upon. Reference-books and such aids as indexes and guides were mentioned. Valuable library bulletins and reference lists were exhibited and the manner of compiling these explained. The arguments for and against access to shelves were briefly stated and a general discussion followed.

In library literature, periodicals, handbooks, catalogs, reports, etc., of special value to librarians were described and exhibited. The importance of a librarian keeping in touch with all the literature of his profession was urged.

This finished the practical work of the institute to the eminent satisfaction of all in attendance, the only regret expressed being in regard to the limited time of the meetings. An urgent request was made for a longer session at another time. A vote of thanks was given to the libraries of Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, Evansville, Terre Haute, and Franklin College, to the Bowen-Merrill Co. and Library Bureau.

The officers elected for the year are: Elizabeth D. Swan, of Purdue Univ., president; J. S. Leach, Kokomo, vice-president; M. E. Ahern, secretary and treasurer.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* J. W. Rich, State University Library, Iowa City.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

THE executive committee have decided not to resume the preparation of the Lists of selected fiction. After the question of continuance was referred to them at the last meeting of the club, the committee sent circulars to the 600 persons who had received the lists, asking earnestly for replies to inquiries about the real practical value of the lists. From the replies received — about 230 — it appeared that, while the lists were highly praised, the former method of publication, though preferred by a majority, could not be continued. The lists were found to be practically useful to a limited class of libraries scattered over the whole country. The committee, therefore, resolved not to assume for the club the expense and burden of this work by their own authority, but to report their conclusions in detail at a club meeting.

The next meeting of the club will be held at Hartford, Ct., on February 3, at the union meeting of New England associations, under the auspices of the Connecticut Library Association. WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

THE Minnesota Library Association held its fifth annual meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 29, in St. Paul and Minneapolis. A strong attempt had previously been made to make this year's meeting an especially large and profitable one, and the results were not disappointing. The state educational association, which met in St. Paul on the same date, set aside one session of its meetings for the discussion of library

matters. The program for this session was planned by the library association, and was a joint meeting of the two associations. This seems to be a good beginning toward establishing friendly relations throughout the state between schools and libraries. It will at any rate go to prove that the two branches of educational work are aiming toward the same results, a point of view which people in Minnesota have not always been quick to take.

The papers read before the joint meeting were as follows: "Library economy in the college curriculum," by Miss Lettie Crafts, assistant librarian of the state university; "Correlation of the library and school," by Dr. J. K. Hosmer, librarian of the Minneapolis Public Library; "Minnesota district school libraries," by Mr. W. W. Pendergast, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. All of these papers were listened to with interest, and went far to identify the work of the two associations. Miss Crafts's paper pleaded for a chair of bibliography in the college faculty and the systematic training of students in using a library. She also pleaded for a course in the summer school, which should give the teachers an opportunity of learning something of library economy. The growing high school libraries and district libraries almost demand that the teachers should have at least an elementary knowledge of library science.

The afternoon session, held in the Minneapolis Public Library, was a very interesting one. Over 35 members were present, representing the libraries of St. Paul, Minneapolis, State University, Duluth, St. Cloud, Mankato, Rochester, Red Wing, Anoka, and Stillwater. The president, Dr. W. W. Folwell, was absent, and Dr. J. K. Hosmer, of Minneapolis, presided. The papers were uniformly good and on live topics, the work with the children, perhaps, receiving more attention than any other one subject. The reports from the various town libraries showed great progress through the past year, and left one with the impression that the Minnesota library spirit is greatly awakened.

The evening session found 45 present. The chief paper of the evening was by Miss M. J. Evans, of Carleton College, Northfield. She spoke on the subject of "How best to render the college student familiar with the college library." Her remarks were especially helpful to college librarians, and set forth particularly the field of usefulness which is open to college libraries, but every librarian present felt that her own horizon had been enlarged, and that many of the suggestions were applicable to her own case.

Miss Countryman followed with a paper on the need of a state library commission, and gave briefly some facts in regard to the bill which is to be introduced this winter in the state legislature.

Then followed a pleasant social session, made pleasanter by ice-cream and cake. The galleries of the library had been lighted, and the association was taken through the building to see the picture gallery and the collection of casts which has recently been placed in the building. And so closed the best meeting which the association has ever held.

GRATIA A. COUNTRYMAN, *Secretary.*

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

THE Nebraska Library Association held its second annual meeting in the library building the state university on the afternoon of Dec. 31, from 2 to 4 o'clock. The association is an auxiliary of the state teachers' association, and was held in connection with the annual meeting of that body. The session proved exceedingly interesting. It was given up almost wholly to the discussion of travelling libraries, and suggestions for instituting this system in the state.

The subject was brought before the association in a paper by Miss Edna D. Bullock, formerly of the state library, who discussed at length the New York system of travelling libraries, and told of the success of the plan there and in other states where it has been adopted. She set forth the scope, purposes, practical workings, and cost of a state system of travelling libraries, and urged that the matter be given serious attention in Nebraska.

President D. A. Campbell, of the state library, then called for a full discussion of the subject, and suggestions as to the best means of bringing the matter before the legislature. Members of the Federation of Women's Clubs were present, and as pioneers who have begun a system of travelling libraries on a small scale promised all possible aid to the movement for a state system.

A communication from the university regents, promising hearty support of the measure, was read by the secretary, Mary L. Jones. Chancellor MacLean then spoke, heartily favoring the travelling library. He said he had done all he could to help formulate and pass a travelling library bill in Minnesota. Such libraries, he thought, fostered the growth of the true public libraries, not libraries endowed by private munificence but maintained by the state as truly educational institutions for the uplifting of its people. He suggested that a travelling library system should have a close connection with the state educational system. It should act as an aid in the work of university extension, which is only beginning in Nebraska. The travelling library could reach places where the university extension course could not—could give university extension work down to the fingers and toes, as it were, of this state of magnificent distances.* He spoke of the enthusiastic support of the regents and faculty for this measure, and gave some information as to the nature of the bill presented to the Minnesota legislature.

Prof. W. E. Jillson, of Doane College, favored travelling libraries, and thought a bill

should be modelled to suit local conditions. Nebraska needs such libraries much more than a thickly-settled state like New York, where they have proved so useful.

The association then voted to present a memorial to the coming legislature on the subject, and to work for the adoption of a bill making a beginning of a travelling library system in the state.

Mr. Campbell read a very interesting article in the Chicago *Times-Herald*, Dec. 26, about the travelling libraries started by Senator Stout, and later by Mr. Witter, in two localities of Wisconsin. The hunger of the people for books, their careful and constant use of them, were illustrated there and made an almost pathetic plea for the plan which has given them so much pleasure.

Officers of the association were elected for the coming year as follows: President, Prof. W. E. Jillson, of Doane College; first vice-president, Miss Edna D. Bullock; second vice-president, Miss Carrie Dennis; secretary, Miss Mary L. Jones; treasurer, Mrs. M. E. Abell, of Beatrice.

Provision was made for having the state library law and a list of the libraries of the state published, in order to interest people in the subject of libraries.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. W. Bailey, Nashua.

*Corresponding Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss A. M. Colby, Public Library, Concord.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* John B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE N. Y. LIBRARY CLUB.*

THE annual joint meeting of the New York State Library Association and the New York Library Club was held this year on January 14, in Brooklyn, at the invitation of the Brooklyn Public Library Association. The meeting was an all-day, and for that matter almost an all-night, affair; the morning and afternoon sessions being held in the Art Building, on Montague street, and a public meeting in the evening at the Academy of Music, having been arranged to awaken public interest in the matter of establishing a free public library for Brooklyn. The Clarendon Hotel was the headquarters of the visiting librarians, and here the annual dinner was served, in more abbreviated fashion than in former years, when this prandial gathering has formed the social finish of the conference. There was a large attendance from out of town, and Brooklyn and New York also made an admirable showing, nearly 200 persons being present during most of the day.

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m., Mr. C: Alex. Nelson acting as chairman in the absence of Mr. Larned, who was unable to attend on account of the important business now pending in Buffalo regarding the change of the Buffalo Library from a subscription institution to a free public library. Mr. Nelson in a few words welcomed the associations to Brooklyn, which he said had often been called the sleeping-chamber of New York, and which perhaps merited this designation, at least so far as regarded public libraries. Nevertheless, though Brooklyn could not boast a public library it possessed its full quota of free libraries, in the Union for Christian Work with its 30,000 volumes and its circulation of 200,000, in the Pratt Institute library, and in a number of other libraries, while through the efforts of the Brooklyn Public Library Association and the stimulus derived from the meeting it was hoped that it would not be long before a free public library would be added to the list.

A motion made by Mr. Eastman was carried, that the chair appoint a committee to nominate officers for the state association; another motion appointing a committee of two from the state association to act with the club in regard to resolutions was also carried, and Mr. Eastman recommended that Mr. Dewey, president of the library section of the N. E. A., be asked to speak on the relation between that body and the library associations at the close of the morning's program.

The regular program was then opened by Mr. Eastman, who read an interesting and encouraging paper on "Library progress in the state of New York." The library record of New York City was first noted. The item of $63,500 appropriated for four free circulating libraries in the city in January, 1896, had increased by January 1, 1897 58%, or to $96,700, to be shared by 10 distinct library corporations, which if reckoned by branches as well as by parent libraries gives a total of 19 libraries officially recognized by the city, and circulating in 1896 1,529,385 v., an increase of 350,000 v. in two years. The first notable impulse to the library movement in the state was given by the university law of 1892, the salient points of which were briefly reviewed by Mr. Eastman, by which public libraries are fully recognized as institutions of higher education and the promotion of their interests is made a duty of the regents of the university. Under this law for five years $25,000 a year has been appropriated for the libraries of the state and 161 different libraries have received aid, some of them two, three, and four times. In less than

*This report is largely prepared from the excellent notes taken during the meeting by Miss J. A. Rathbone, secretary of the N. Y. Library Club.

five years 106 public libraries were chartered by the university, 22 were admitted as university institutions, 41 were registered as maintaining a proper standard, and 17 were organized under general laws, six of which were subsequently admitted and five registered by the university.

In 1896 the state university received the reports of 807 libraries, containing 4,654,961 v., and circulating 5,008,402 v. In free circulating libraries alone the increase has been from 238 in 1893 to 351, a growth of 113 or 47% in three years; these now contain 1,313,299 v. and circulated in 1896 2,933,628 v. "These figures mean that, on an average, there were 10,750 books issued every day in the year from the free libraries, where three years ago there were only 6260 books a day, and that an increase of 2150 a day belongs to the last year." As an instance the case of the Utica Public Library was cited, which three years ago reported a circulation of about 158 a day, and which now has an average circulation of 600 a day and a frequent issue of 1000 a day.

The new buildings acquired by libraries in the course of the past four years were briefly reviewed, and 36 new and costly structures were noted, while a brief summary was given of the many new libraries established all over the state.

The travelling libraries conducted by the state were described, and statistics of their use were given. There are now in use 234 sets of the 28 general and nine subject libraries; 768 libraries have been sent out on 524 applications, and the reported circulation has been 85,393.

Mr. Eastman touched upon the increasing frequency with which requests for advice and assistance are sent to the library training schools from local libraries and organizations, on the growing thoroughness and extension of the library school courses, and on the wide significance of the recent establishment of a library section in the National Educational Association, and of the development of library associations. "All these are multiplying signs of the force of the library movement. They point to a growing demand for books of the better sort, not for entertainment merely, nor for excitement, but for information and inspiration." Mr. Nelson added to Mr. Eastman's interesting report the information that a new subscription library of 200 members had been opened only the day before this meeting by the Woman's Fortnightly Club in the 26th ward of Brooklyn.

The following committees were then announced: on nominations, A. L. Peck, M. S. Cutler, W. S. Sickley; on resolutions, G. H. Baker, W. R. Eastman.

Mr. Richard Jones, Regents literature inspector, then delivered an address on "Literature clubs," and the way in which their work has been promoted through the university. The matter of improving public taste in reading is one of vital importance. To the question, What do people read? there can be but one answer—trash, weak trash, not to say vile trash. Charles Dudley Warner once asked, When do the leisure classes read, and answered that it was not in winter, for then the demands of society were to be met; nor in summer, for then time must be given to recreation. Even yet people do not read the great books of the world, a statement strikingly illustrated by the fact that Mr. Jones had found it impossible to get 25 copies of Milton, or Spenser, or Dante in the book-stores of Philadelphia. He doubted if in all the book-stores of a city of 1,000,000 inhabitants there could be found 25 copies of "Paradise lost" or of Dante; and twice, in Chicago and New York, he had cleared the market of copies of Dante. He spoke vigorously of the need of a higher general standard of culture, and of the work done toward that end by the literature clubs under direction of the regents, who were prepared to furnish courses designed not only for teachers and pupils of literature, but for all who desired them. He mentioned several of the courses now in preparation or already organized, and urged the co-operation of local libraries in the work. The books for the courses would, if desired, be made a part of the travelling libraries sent to communities desiring them. He quoted Woodrow Wilson on the value of "mere literature," and earnestly urged the claims of the literature of power, as more needed than the literature of information.

The next feature of the program was a symposium on "What should librarians read?" by G. H. Baker, W. A. Bardwell, A. E. Bostwick, and Wilberforce Eames. Mr. Baker opened the discussion by saying that if he or his colleagues had intended to impress librarians with the things they ought to read, but do not, that portion of their talk might be omitted, in view of Mr. Jones's address. The librarian of a modern library, large or small, has so many demands upon time and thought that any systematic attempt to read is almost impossible, except out of business hours. Librarians generally must find time to glance at books to see what is to be done with them for practical purposes. There was no time when so many demands were made upon the librarian, when the professional standard was so high as at present. The librarian should be intelligent, widely read, and thoroughly informed, and with this greater need there was a smaller possibility of meeting it. Some substitutes were suggested by which the librarian might, in a measure, supply the want of time or opportunity to accomplish the reading so necessary in his work: first, adequate, intelligent preparation for his work beforehand; second, an organized systematic attempt to utilize others' reading. In a university library it is comparatively easy to enlist the help of specialists on different subjects in passing on the literature of their subjects for the librarian's information, and even in public libraries it should be easy to find men and women with specific literary taste and knowledge who will help him in this way. Some systematic effort should be made by the librarian to gather around him people who can counsel him on the selection of books and on whose judg-

ment and taste he can rely. But the librarian cannot get this information at second hand unless he has some capital of his own to start with. He should cultivate the power of imbibing briefly a notion of the contents and character of a book on almost any subject, of obtaining an amount of varied if superficial knowledge on most subjects; but with this he should know some one thing thoroughly, that he may keep in touch with the methods used by students in their investigations and with the needs of investigators as a whole. Mr. Baker closed with a plea for recreative reading, often the only kind of reading for which the librarian is fit, after the stress of his mental work, and recommended a thorough acquaintance with the daily papers and with the history of our own time as revealed by them.

Mr. Bardwell's contribution to the symposium was read by his son. It divided the librarian's reading into two divisions — official and unofficial; the former consisting of the necessary book lists, reviews, catalogs, etc., the latter of the general literature that is hardly less important. He urged the utilization of odd minutes, the time spent in going to and from luncheon, and especially the time spent in travelling on street cars, and said that a book read but for a short time at frequent intervals was better remembered than one read continuously. Mr. Bostwick's paper dealt especially with reviews as a substitute for reading by the librarian, and pointed out the fact that modern reviews were written for the critic or for the general reader, but not for the librarian. What a librarian wants to know about a book is: 1, to what class of readers does it appeal? 2, will that class seek for it, or will it be desired only by a few? 3, does it contain anything objectionable, morally, politically, or from a religious standpoint? 4, what are its literary merits? and 5, how much reliance can be placed upon its facts? None of these questions are answered in the ordinary book notices, and the only way in which they may be solved is by the reviewing of books for librarians by librarians. Signed reviews were, from the librarian's standpoint, far preferable to unsigned reviews. He believed that every book in a library should have passed through the librarian's hands.

Mr. Eames concluded the discussion with some notes on the necessity of keeping informed in the various classes of literature. What a librarian should read depends largely upon the kind of a library under his care, but the thing of first importance is to keep in touch with library methods and developments. He recommended that the reading of books in the various departments of literature be divided among heads of departments, and he said that one of the duties of the librarian was the preparation of a course of reading for his assistants, to be followed at home.

Miss Cutler and Mr. Richardson both rose to endorse Mr. Baker's suggestion that books on various subjects be "farmed out" for critical reading by specialists, whose work would thus materially lighten the duties of the librarian. Mr. Dewey took another view of the matter. He said that librarians ought to take their own medicine and had no more right to expect to do their personal reading in office hours than had the cashier of a bank or an engineer. Librarians were paid better salaries, given shorter hours and longer vacations because their work was being recognized as professional. That meant that they should take time for preparation, not only before entering their profession but daily while carrying it on. When librarians were appointed as mere custodians of books at trifling salaries they might do their reading and study in official hours, but now the public demanded their time as rigorously as it did that of the expert dentist, who would lose his patients if, while being paid $6 an hour, he should sit down to read the latest work on dentistry. The librarian who contented himself with passing on to readers only second-hand information without himself knowing thoroughly at least some of the great literary masterpieces was making himself merely a water-spout instead of a fountain. It is his business to urge on the public the reading of the best books, and he has just as much leisure and strength for such reading out of office hours as has the merchant or professional man who is subjected probably to greater nervous strain. The physician notoriously violates the rules of health prescribed for his patient and the lawyer is the most ingenious and persistent violator of the statutes, but the ideal librarian cannot preach the reading of the literature of power to the rest of the world and in his practice neglect it for himself.

Mr. Cutter agreed with Mr. Dewey that librarians should know everything, but unfortunately they did not possess 10 or a dozen contemporaneous lives. He would not advise any one to try to read all the books in arts and sciences, for instance, and he thought that too much should not be expected of librarians in that respect.

Mr. Dewey then spoke briefly on the relation that should exist between the library associations and the National Educational Association, and of the good that co-operation between the two could accomplish. On motion of Mr. Eastman it was "*Voted*, that this meeting requests the executive boards of the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club to secure, if possible, a representation of their respective bodies of not less than five delegates at the annual meeting of the National Educational Association at Milwaukee in July, 1897."

The election of officers for 1897 was next in order, and resulted as follows: President, A. L. Peck, Gloversville Public Library; Vice-presidents: Willis A. Bardwell, Brooklyn Public Library, Miss E. G. Baldwin, Teachers College, New York; Secretary, W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany; Treasurer, J. N. Wing, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. The meeting then adjourned.

The afternoon session opened at 2:30, with the presentation of the amendment to article 6 of the constitution, discussed at the last meeting, which, on motion of Mr. Eastman, was

adopted. The article as amended reads: "There shall be regular meetings of the club on the second Thursday of each October, November, January, March, and May," the February meeting being omitted and the first meeting occurring in October instead of November. The following new members were then admitted: J. T. Gerald, General Theological Seminary; Miss Jessie Hume, Long Island City; Miss Irma Blake, 4 W. 91st street, New York; Miss Gertrude A. Brewster, Lenox Library.

The meeting then entered upon the discussion and criticism of the best books of 1896, to which the rest of the afternoon was devoted. This exercise was modelled upon the A. L. A. catalog supplement session at Cleveland, and like that, proved to be of the greatest interest and usefulness. There can be little doubt that these critical "book talks," so happily planned by Miss Cutler, have found permanent place in library meetings, and that they can in a measure solve some of the difficulties of library reviewing, touched upon in the morning's discussion of what librarians should read. A classed list of 489 of the leading books of 1896 had been prepared at the New York State Library, and was distributed to those in attendance at the meeting, while the books in the various divisions were presented and commented upon by various speakers, whose choice, however, was not limited to the list, which was simply a tentative selection, subject to revision. The speaker for each subject or group of subjects was allowed 10 minutes, except in the case of fiction and juvenile books, where 20 minutes each were given. After a few words of introduction by Mr. Eastman, Mr. Peoples presented his selection of the reference-books of 1896, adding to the five titles given in the printed list over 30 books of reference published during the year. Among the titles added were "American book-prices current," and its English congener, "Book-prices current," the "American and English cyclopædia of law." Bowerman's "Bibliography of religious denominations in the U. S.," the "Commercial year-book," and the "Cumulative index," the second catalog of Peabody Institute, Pirrie's "Dictionary of sea terms," Scott's "Book sales of 1895," Taylor's "Names and their histories," and the recent "Catalogue of government documents," issued by Supt. F. A. Crandall.

E. C. Richardson, of Princeton University, was assigned the books on Philosophy and ethics and Religion. In the first division, if any titles were to be omitted, he suggested that Bigelow's "Mystery of sleep," Horton's "On the art of living together," and Mrs. Whitney's "Friendly letters to girl friends," might be dispensed with, and in their place recommended Butler's works, edited by Gladstone; Titchenor's "Outline of psychology," and Weber's "History of philosophy," which was said to be the first choice of all books in that class for the year. In religion commendation was given to Abbott's "Christianity and social progress," Abraham's "Jewish life in the middle ages," David's "Buddhism," and Vincent's "Age of Hildebrand"; "The Bible and the child," by Dean Farrar and others, Guerber's "Legends of the Madonna and Christ," and "Church unity," by Shields and others, might be omitted; while additions might include Argyle's "Philosophy of belief," the author's masterpiece; Fisher's "History of Christian doctrine," of first importance; Speer's "Study of the man Christ Jesus," Byington's "Puritan in England and New England," Strong's "Christian ethics," and Scott's "Origin and development of the Nicene theology."

Natural science and Useful arts were reviewed by T. L. Montgomery, who, as at Cleveland, gave rather short shrift to the "popular" scientific books represented by Trowbridge's "What is electricity?" and Chambers's "Story of the solar system." Among those commended were Mrs. Dana's "Plants and their children," Martin's "Story of a piece of coal," and Mathews's "Familiar trees and their leaves," while the list should certainly include Smith's "Economic entomology," one of the best scientific books of the year.

Mr. Cutter prefaced his talk on books in Fine arts by a few words on the principles to be observed in buying art-books for public libraries. He thought that books that teach technique are not the first books to be desired, but that it is quite as necessary to have works not of information but of inspiration on art themes. Of the books listed he mentioned as of special value Gardner's "Handbook of Greek sculpture," Muther's "History of modern painting," Sturgis's "European architecture," and Tarbell's "History of Greek art"; while the selection should also include Berenson's "Florentine painters of the Renaissance," Vernon Lee's "Renaissance fancies and studies," Goodyear's "History of art," 5th edition, and Evans's "Animal symbolism in ecclesiastical architecture."

The list of books in Social science included 35 titles, and the presentation of this division was the most valuable feature of the session, occupying about half an hour instead of the 10 minutes assigned. It was reviewed by Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, of Columbia University, who submitted each book to a brief, authoritative, and masterful analysis, and added to the list a number of important works that should be included in any selection on the subject. It is impossible to give within necessary limits an adequate idea of the value and importance of Prof. Giddings's summary; only a few of the books mentioned may be briefly noted. Among those specially commended were "The speaker of the House of Representatives," by M. P. Follett, "the best book of the year"; "Problems of modern democracy," by E. L. Godkin; Hobson's "Problem of the unemployed"; Keasebey's "Nicaragua canal and the Monroe doctrine"; Le Bon's "The crowd"; Lowell's "Government and parties in continental Europe," "a great book"; Nicholson's "Strikes and social problems"; and "America and Europe," by D. A. Wells and others. Those considered unnecessary were Flint's "Socialism," "not worth the paper it is printed on"; and McKechnie's "The state

and the individual." Spahr's "Essay on the present distribution of wealth in the United States," while in a measure commended, was said to be not wholly fair in the use of statistics. Necessary additions to the list should include Gannett's "Building of a nation," Stimson's "Handbook to the labor laws of the United States," and Chance's "Better administration of the poor laws."

Fiction was presented by Miss Helen E. Haines, who confessed to having read 43 of the 81 novels recorded in the printed list, besides a number not there included. She had selected 24 books as representing the best fiction of 1896, and had divided them into two groups — first best and second best. The first list included Barrie's "Sentimental Tommy"; "King Noanett," by F. J. Stimson; "Sir George Tressady," by Mrs. Humphry Ward; "Weir of Hermiston," Stevenson's great fragment; "The well at the world's end," William Morris's last work; Frederic's "Damnation of Theron Ware"; "The seats of the mighty," by Gilbert Parker; "The Reds of the Midi," by Felix Gras," and four books not given on the printed list but that should certainly be included: "Nephelé," by F. W. Bourdillon; "A king and a few dukes," by Robert Chambers; "Earth's enigmas," by C. G. D. Roberts, and "The cat and the cherub," by Chester Bailey Fernald. Among the books in the second division were Mrs. Wiggin's "Marm Lisa"; "The exploits of Brigadier Gerard," by A. Conan Doyle; "Silk of the kine," by L. McManus; Crawford's "Taquisara"; "Kate Carnegie," and three additions to the printed list, "Quo vadis," by H. Sienkiewicz; "Green fire," by Fiona Macleod, and Alice Brown's short stories, "Meadowgrass." Four books were added in a separate group, as having received praise and popularity, but as not belonging, in the speaker's opinion, to the best fiction of 1896. These were Mark Twain's "Joan of Arc," characterized as out of touch with the spirit of the time and people it represented and lacking historical perspective; "Madelon," by Mary E. Wilkins; "Adam Johnstone's son," by F. Marion Crawford; and "Tom Grogan," by F. Hopkinson Smith. In the brief discussion that followed, "Gaston Latour," Walter Pater's last novel, was added to the list by Mr. Richardson, and "Tom Grogan" found several adherents, who dismissed the charge of sensationalism by proving that the story was founded almost wholly upon fact.

Literature was reviewed by Miss Mary L. Davis, of the Pratt Institute Free Library, who gave most attention to the poetry of the year. She divided the books into two classes — "those we must have," and those we can do without. Among those specially named were Johanna Ambrosius's poems, "W. V.: her book," Kipling's "Seven seas," Watson's "Purple east," and Paul Lawrence Dunbar's poems. Suggested additions included Suderman's "Magda," Christina Rossetti's poems, "Egbert's Introduction to the study of Latin inscriptions," and Sharp's "Lyra Celtica."

Miss Mary W. Plummer reviewed the year's production in travel, classifying the books by countries, beginning with Japan and ending with France. She gave special praise to Hearn's "Kokoro," Jaccaci's "On the trail of Don Quixote," and Theuriet's "Rustic life in France," and named among additions to the list Skinner's "Myths and legends of our own land," the new editions of Horner's "Walks in Florence," Dennie's "Rome," Arnold's "Persia revisited," and Withers's "English and Dutch in South Africa."

Biography had been assigned to Miss M. S. Cutler, who divided the books into two lists: first, those of the most valuable, and second, those of a more popular nature. Among the best biographies of the year she named Barrie's "Margaret Ogilvy," Morse's "Life and letters of Oliver Wendell Holmes," Dr. Hosmer's "Life of Thomas Hutchinson," Lowell's "Joan of Arc," "which gives Mrs. Oliphant's 'Jeanne d'Arc" no reason for existence"; Sloane's "Napoleon," Rossetti's "Family letters," Ford's and Wilson's biographies of Washington, and John Burroughs's "Whitman.' Also notable in this class were Shorter's "Charlotte Brontë," Mrs. Fields's "Authors and friends"; Mrs. Clarke's "My long life"; "Dolly Madison," by Mrs. M. W. Goodwin' Lodge's "Richelieu"; Romanes's "Life and letters"; and Rae's "Sheridan."

History was to have been reviewed by Mr. Larned, in whose absence it was passed over, and Miss Hewins gave a delightful talk on the children's books of 1896. The year, she said, had produced no very good book for children, "that is, no book worthy to be put into the A. L. A. selected list." Mrs. Moulton's "In childhood's country" she thought unsuitable for children; Wesselhoeft's "Jerry the blunderer" was not in all respects desirable, while Crockett's "Sweetheart travellers" would not appeal particularly to juvenile readers. Among the books given qualified approval were James Barnes's "For king and country"; Henty's three books of the year; and Kirk Munroe's "Rick Dale." Eliza Orne White's "A little girl of long ago" and Lang's "Animal story-book" ranked as the best books of the year in that division.

This closed the day's program. After a few words the meeting was declared adjourned, and the audience dispersed, most of them making their way to the Clarendon Hotel, where all met again at the usual "library dinner," with which the joint meeting usually gives a social finish to its day of work. This year the dinner, though enjoyable, was a less important affair, being quite subordinated to the evening meeting in the Academy of Music arranged by the Brooklyn Public Library Association. There were no post-prandial exercises, and most of the diners left the last items of the *menu* undiscussed, in order to reach the academy by eight o'clock. The academy meeting, which is reported elsewhere in this issue, was wholly successful and brought to an end what must rank as one of the best library field-days New York state has known.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton,

*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Jos. G. Rosengarten, Free Library, Philadelphia.

*Secretary* · C. S. Kates, Free Library, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. A. Resag, Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del.

THE December meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held at the Drexel Institute on Monday evening, Dec. 14, 98 members being present.

After an examination of some of the rare books in the Drexel Institute Library which were exhibited by Miss Kroeger, the meeting was called to order by the vice-president, Mr. T. L. Montgomery, in the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr. J. G. Rosengarten.

The principal business of the evening was a discussion upon the life and works of Robert Burton. Dr. McAlister, president of the Drexel Institute, opened the discussion by relating some reminiscences of his enjoyment of the "Anatomy of melancholy" when a young student. Mr. Thomson, of the Free Library, followed with an account of the life of the author, and explained that but little was known of Burton's life, owing to the fact that he was a quiet country parson who proved his title to be called a bookworm by having for 20 years devoted himself to secluded studies in the Bodleian Library, in which building, with the aid of the then librarian of that celebrated centre of books, he amassed a large part of the material forming his extraordinary work on melancholy. The speaker gave several illustrations of Burton's characteristics collected from Hearne, Disraeli, Anthony and Wood, *Notes and Queries*, and such other sources of anecdotes. It was pointed out that Burton did not write the "Anatomy," but that we owe this work to Bacon, who so generously gave us his own books, the Shakespeare plays, this "Anatomy," together with a few other hundred series of works which have passed hitherto under the names of other writers. The 19th century "higher criticism" is undoubtedly monotonous, and it is rather disappointing to find that nobody wrote the works hitherto credited to him and that everything is the work of some other fellow.

Miss Mary Farr, now librarian of the Girls' Normal School in Philadelphia, and formerly first assistant at the West Philadelphia Branch of the Free Library, followed with a clever paper dealing with the merits both bibliographical and literary of Burton's work. The criticisms advanced lacked melancholy in every sense, and her troubles in dealing with the Latin portions were described with a tinge of real humor. She gave advice to other readers in telling them that if they did not know Latin, the best plan was to look in a note for the translation, and if no such note was given, then to pass on to the next paragraph. Her paper was received with applause, and the club then proceeded to discuss other business.

With reference to the continuation of the Ames catalog, it was explained on behalf of the committee who had charge of this matter that the club did not desire to express any opinion as to who should be the person selected to make the desired continuation, and that an interview had been requested with Mr. Harmer at Washington in order that the committee might lay before him the reasons that weighed with librarians in urgently asking for the continuance of the catalog. An early interview has been promised, and the action of the committee was unanimously approved.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* W: R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

THE meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association, originally scheduled for Jan. 28 and 29, 1897, has been deferred until February 22 and 23, 1897.

Programs may be obtained after February 1 by addressing L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary.*

*LIBRARY SECTION OF THE WISCONSIN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.*

THE meeting of the Wisconsin Teachers' Association, at Milwaukee, on Dec. 29, 30, and 31, will be memorable for the prominence given to library matters. At the December meeting, in 1895, the teachers' association voted to give a "library section" a permanent place on its program.

At the general session of the association, held on the morning of Dec. 30, Melvil Dewey, state librarian of New York, spoke on "The mission of the modern library." Mr. Dewey's address was discussed by Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary of the Wisconsin Library Commission.

The questions, "How can the public library be made an aid to the schools?" and "How can interest in literature be stimulated in communities which have no public library?" were then thrown open for a general discussion, in which Miss Mae E. Schreiber, C. E. Patzer, H. B. Hubbell, R. B. Dudgeon, and J. C. Freeman took part.

The discussion was followed by a report on "Needed library legislation," presented by President Albert Salisbury, of the Whitewater Normal School.

The afternoon session was conducted by F. A. Hutchins, chairman of the Wisconsin Library Commission. While the morning meeting of the association was mainly given to showing the need and value of libraries and their relations to schools, the afternoon session was devoted to showing Wisconsin people how to get libraries for their communities. Mr. Dewey opened the discussion by citing many ways of arousing interest and educating public sentiment. Dr. G. W. Peckham, of the Milwaukee Library, explained the peculiarities of the Wisconsin library laws.

Miss Mary Edgar, of Madison, then read a paper on her plan of awakening interest in the best literature. Miss Mae Schreiber, of the Milwaukee Normal School, then gave methods used by her in training student-teachers to read good literature with pleasure.

Much interest was evinced in these meetings; and the following sentiment, which appeared on the back of the programs issued by the commission, is in a fair way to be adopted as the

BADGER SLOGAN.

"Let every Wisconsin community celebrate the semi-centennial year by improving or founding a free public library."

L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary Lib. Section.*

*WISCONSIN LIBRARIANS' INSTITUTE.*

THE officers and librarians of the Stout Free Travelling Libraries, of Dunn County, Wisconsin, held an institute at the Tainter Memorial Library at Menomonie, Wis , on Nov. 27, 1896. Mr. Hutchins, chairman of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, presided. The meeting was informal. Such problems as the following were discussed: "How can we advertise the travelling library?" "How can we get the boys to read?" "How can we secure careful treatment of the books?" "Can small permanent libraries be built up at the travelling library stations?" "Can magazines taken by patrons be circulated through the libraries?" Reports from the various libraries were presented. 11 of the 25 libraries of 30 volumes each show a total circulation of 1823 volumes in six months—a remarkable showing considering the sparsely-settled districts in which the volumes circulate.

After some discussion upon ways of making the libraries of greater value to communities, the members adjourned to the High School building, to meet with the Dunn County Teachers' Institute, where papers were read by Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, on "Children's reading," and by Miss Louise Sutermeister, of Eau Claire, on "The travelling library movement in America." Miss Waterston, a teacher at Knapp, Wis., read an interesting paper on the "Influence of the travelling library in Pleasant Valley." The subject of travelling pictures was discussed, and it was decided to start a system for the use of the schools, under the supervision of the county superintendent, Miss Elvira Brickley, of Downsville, Wis.

Senator Stout tendered the visiting delegates a dinner, after which Miss Maude A. Earley, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., spoke on the travelling library movement in Chippewa county. After voting to hold another institute in March, 1897, the meeting adjourned.

The meeting is the more worthy of notice as it was undoubtedly the first of the kind ever held. L. E. STEARNS,

*Secretary Wisconsin Library Commission.*

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

A LARGELY attended and enthusiastic meeting of the North Wisconsin Travelling Library Association was held in the Vaughn Library, Ashland, on Monday, Dec. 28, 1896.

Three committees of five members each were appointed by the president. 1st, a committee on soliciting and selecting books; 2d, a committee on soliciting money; and 3d, a committee on soliciting members. Any one interested in the work may become a member of the association by signing the constitution and paying during the year $1, or its equivalent in books.

It was decided to try to send out 10 libraries before the first of February, and to confine the work to the following counties: Ashland, Bayfield, Sawyer, Price, and Iron.

The secretary reported that since the first meeting of the association between 60 and 70 books and a quantity of magazines had been contributed by the people of Ashland. A circular asking for books and periodicals has just been issued and distributed to the local papers, which it is hoped will bring a generous response. JANET M. GREEN, *Secretary.*

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss May L. Bennett, 1888 Sheridan Road, Evanston.
*Treasurer:* W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

THE 32d regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held in the rooms of the Library Bureau, 215 Madison st., Chicago, Thursday evening, November 5, at eight o'clock. The program was devoted to the discussion of the proposed union list of periodicals in the libraries of Chicago and immediate vicinity, to be compiled by the club. After a short paper by Mr. Anderson, which was strongly in favor of the work being undertaken by the club, the subject was thrown open for general discus-

sion. The following resolutions were finally adopted:

"*Resolved*—"I. That the club deem it desirable to undertake the compilation and publication of a union list of the periodicals in the libraries of Chicago and the immediate vicinity.

"II. That there be appointed by the president a committee of two on finance, whose duty it shall be to secure the means necessary for the work.

"III. That there be also appointed by the president a committee of three on compiling and editing. This committee shall have the power to appoint sub-committees and agents. It shall, with the advice and consent of the executive committee of the club, have entire charge of the work of preparing the union list of periodicals.

"IV. The executive committee shall make monthly reports to the club of the progress of the work of these committees."

MAY BENNETT, *Secretary.*

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so good-day!"

A MEETING of the Milwaukee Library Round Table was held on Dec. 3, 1896. "The Vatican Library"—the third of a series of papers on the great libraries of the world—was described by Miss Florence Olcott, and followed with a talk by Dr. Peckham on "Classification of animals."

At the meeting held on Dec. 17 Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh made a talk on "Modern methods of book illustration." The talk was illustrated with samples of the different processes and proved exceedingly interesting. Miss L. E. Stearns gave a report on the Travelling library librarians' institute recently held at Menomonie, Wis., and also read a paper written by Miss Della Waterston, a teacher of Knapp, on "What the travelling library has done for Pleasant Valley."

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

FOR report of joint meeting with N. Y. Library Association, *see* p. 33.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE annual meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University Building on Dec. 30, 1896. The reports of the retiring officers were listened to with pleasure, as they showed that the past year was one of profit and gain. Eight meetings have been held during that time, at which 13 papers upon subjects connected with the librarian's profession were read. The finances of the association were reported in good condition, 71 members being on the roll.

The president was authorized to appoint a committee to be charged with the duty of preparing a handbook of the society, to contain a list of members and such other matter as the committee deemed appropriate.

The subscription for the LIBRARY JOURNAL was ordered renewed.

The following persons were elected as officers for the ensuing year: President, W. P. Cutter; librarian Department of Agriculture; Vice-presidents, Miss A. R. Hasse, office of the Superintendent of Public Documents; T. L. Cole, of the Statute Law Book Co.; Secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. H. Parsons (re-elected); Executive committee, Mr. Howard L. Prince, librarian U. S. Patent Office; Miss J. A. Clarke, librarian of the Department of Agriculture; Miss M. A. Gilkey, librarian Free Public Library.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.*

AMONG recent speakers before the library class were Dr. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren"), who told of the work of the school with which he is connected in Liverpool; Mr. Thorvald Solberg, of the Boston Book Co., who gave an interesting talk on his experiences in foreign book-stores; and Mr. Melvil Dewey, who visited the Institute Dec. 31, and in the evening was tendered a reception by the library class. He spoke informally upon the national library of America.

The course of lectures on bookbinding, by Mr. Irving Way, of Way & Williams, began Jan. 5. It includes an introductory view of the subject, and separate discussions of preparation of ms. by author, selection of type and page form, machine *vs.* hand composition, preparation of proofs in galley and page form, selection of paper, ink and presswork, illustration, decoration, sending of press copies and putting books on the market.

Recent notes of work done by graduates are as follows:

Miss Mary J. Calkins, of the class of '96, is librarian of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago. Miss Maude R. Henderson, of the class of '96, has a position in the New York Public Library. Miss Charlotte H. Foye, who was in the library class from '95–6, has a position as assistant in the John Crerar Library, Chicago. Miss Eleanor Roper, of the class of '96, has been appointed assistant in the library of Armour Institute.

*DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.*

A COURSE of six lectures on "The history of books and libraries, including the rise and development of printing" will be delivered by Dr. James MacAlister, president of the Institute, in the auditorium of the Institute, on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, beginning March 16. The lectures will be illustrated by

an extensive collection of lantern slides derived from inscriptions, manuscripts, illuminations, rare books, bindings, portraits, libraries, buildings, etc., and the course will cover the history and development of language, oral and written, the written records of Egypt, Chaldea, Assyria, and Babylon, the literature of Greece and Rome, and the decline of ancient culture, the history of the book in the Middle Ages, the renaissance and the revival of literature, early printing and engraving, and the development of literature and libraries in our own time.

### *NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

#### SELECTION OF BOOKS.

THE discussion of books as a feature of library meetings is steadily growing in favor. It was begun at a regular meeting of the American Library Association, held during the post-conference trip at the Sagamore Hotel, Lake George, Sept. 1894. A list of 50 books on history for popular use was discussed. The meeting of the New York Library Association, held at Syracuse, May, 1896, gave an entire session to the "Best books of 1895 for a village library." The discussion of the "Supplement to the catalog of the 'A. L. A.' library," which was planned for the Denver meeting of the A. L. A., was postponed on account of the absence of the committee having it in charge. At Cleveland it was given an evening session, which extended from 8:17 to 11 p.m. The plan of putting the discussion of special subjects into the hands of authorities on those subjects was introduced, *e.g.*, R. G. Thwaites, history; Miss Hewins, children's books. At the joint meeting of the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club, Brooklyn, Jan. 14, 1897, the "Best books of 1896 for a village library" were considered, and at the fall meeting of the New Hampshire Association a similar program was carried out. At both of these meetings the Cleveland plan of division of subjects was followed.

Owing to the new emphasis laid by the association on the selection of books, the methods of teaching this subject in the school have been even more carefully considered. The foundation knowledge of standard authors has always been considered preparatory work. For four years an attempt was made to take up a somewhat systematic study of modern authors. This has now been relegated to preparatory work, and selection is taught by use of the current books. A lecture on the most important critical reviews and one on American publishers begins the course which extends over two years, both classes working together. Each student subscribes for the *Publishers' Weekly* (at the usual special rates), and checks in each number as it appears the books which in his opinion are valuable for a public library. Medical, law, and very technical books are disregarded. The selections of each student are submitted each week to the instructor and returned with criticisms. 14 foreign and 30 American serials are examined co-operatively, each number of the class being responsible for two and noting references for the most valuable books on the slips which have been cut from the *Publishers' Weekly*. Every week 10 of the most important books are taken up in class, each student having previously examined the books carefully and read two of the best reviews which are selected by the instructor. In the class discussion the scope of the book, the qualifications of the author to write such a book, the question "to what class of readers is it of special value?" are dwelt upon most strongly. Incidentally the make-up of the book, its illustrations, its cover, and the comparative merits of the different publishers, are considered. The printed slips for selected books, with the selected reviews, are preserved by each student for future use. Many of the books are read by the class, though only a careful examination is required. About 500 books are taken up in this way in the two years' course. Criticisms or suggestions in regard to these methods are invited from those who have given the matter special thought.

#### GRADUATES OF THE SCHOOL.

Errors which creep into printed statements regarding those who have been at some time connected with the New York State Library School, suggest the desirability of printing in the JOURNAL an authoritative list of graduates. 217 students have matriculated in the schools since Jan. 5, 1887. Of these, 22 completed the course at Columbia College Library, and are counted as graduates of the school though they do not hold the state diploma. 45 hold a diploma from the University of the State of New York. Of these 45, 14 have received the degree B.L.S. Besides these, 44 others hold the first-year certificate.

The significance of the credentials is explained by the following extracts from the official handbook:

"*Pass-cards.* These are issued to any person who passes one or more library examinations, regardless of age, sex, residence, or previous instruction. They simply show that the holder knows enough of each subject certified to meet the required test.

"*First-year certificate.* This shows that the holder has passed the entrance examinations, has completed satisfactorily the work and examinations of junior year, and is officially recognized as a senior library student. This certificate is necessary for admission to the senior class.

"*Diploma.* This shows that the holder has met all entrance requirements, has secured at least one year's instruction in residence at the school, and has passed each examination of the two years' course with a standing of not less than 75 per cent.

"*Honor credentials.* If three-fourths of all the required work is completed with an examination standing of 90 per cent. or over, the credential is issued 'with honor.'

"*B.L.S.* The degree B.L.S. is conferred only on graduates who have met all requirements of the course for an honor diploma, and who submit diplomas or certificates from reg-

istered colleges or pass examinations covering at least two full years of general college work. Thus the full course for which the degree is given includes two years of college work and the two years technical work in the Library School, so that candidates cannot earn a degree in less than four years after graduation from the academy or high school."

STUDENTS COMPLETING COURSE AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE LIBRARY:

Baldwin, Elizabeth C.
Clarke, Edith Emily.
Cole, George Watson.
Cutler, Louisa Salome.
Denio, Lilian.
Fernald, Harriet Converse.
Godfrey, Lydia Boker.
Hopson, Ema K.
Jackson, Annie Brown.
Jones, Ada Alice.
Marsee, Isabel Rebecca.
Medlicott, Mary.
Miller, Eulora.
Palmer, Henrietta Raymer.
Patton, Frances Chauncey.
Plummer, Mary Wright.
Prescott, Harriet Beardslee.
Seymour, May.
Underhill, Caroline Melvil.
Ward, Ama Howard.
Wire, George E.
Woodworth, Florence.

STUDENTS HOLDING DIPLOMA FROM UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK:

Avery, Myrtilla, B.L.S.
Biscoe, Ellen Dodge.
Bowerman, George Franklin, B.L.S.
Browne, Nina Eliza, B.L.S.
Bullock, Edna Dean.
Bullock, Waller Irene.
Bunnell, Ada, B.L.S.
Burdick, Esther Elizabeth.
Burns, William Savage, B.L.S.
Cattell, Sarah Ware, *with honor*.
Champlin, George Greenman.
Christman, Jenny Lind, B.L.S.
Church, Henrietta.
Davis, Mary Louise, *with honor*.
Denio, Herbert Williams.
Eastman, Rev. William Reed, B.L.S.
Ellis, Mary.
Foote, Elizabeth Louisa, B.L.S.
Forsyth, Walter Greenwood.
Harrison, Joseph LeRoy, B.L.S.
Harvey, Elizabeth.
Hawes, Clara Sikes.
Hawley, Mary Elizabeth.
Jones, Mary Letitia, B.L.S.
Kroeger, Alice Bertha, *with honor*.
Leonard, Grace Fisher, *with honor*.
Macky, Bessie Rutherford, B.L.S.
Middleton, Jennie Young.
Olcott, Frances Jenkins.
Plympton, Charles William, *with honor*.
Pond, Nancy May, B.L.S.
Rathbone, Josephine Adams, B.L.S.
Rice, Helen Ward.
Robbins, Mary Esther.
Sharp, Katharine Lucinda, B.L.S.
Sheldon, Helen Griswold.
Silliman, Helen Cornwall.
Sperry, Helen, *with honor*.
Stanley, Harriet Howard, *with honor*.
Sutermeister, Louise Mathilde.
Sutliff, Mary Louise.
Swayze, Mary Camilla.
Temple, Mabel.
Wheeler, Martha Thorne, *with honor*.
Wilson, Minnie Cornwell, *with honor*.

MARY S. CUTLER.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY, Jan. 5, 1897.

*PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL*

A NUMBER of interesting lectures have been given to the students of the school since the opening of the term. Following Mr. Theodore L. De Vinne's lecture on printing were two lectures on bookbinding by Miss Evelyn Hunter Nordhoff, on Nov. 20 and 27. Miss Nordhoff also gave, on Dec. 11 and 18, two process-lectures at her studio in New York, for the members of the second-year class. In the first lecture she discussed details of forwarding, and gave a practical demonstration of the process of preparing a book for its cover. The second lecture dealt with bindings proper, and attention was given to the various grades and kinds of leather, the processes of ornamentation, and the details of finishing. The lectures proved most instructive and interesting, the practical demonstrations that accompanied them serving as effective object lessons, and making the subject matter more definitely understood and more clearly remembered.

A meeting to organize a graduate association was held in connection with the joint meeting of the New York Library Club and state association on January 14. Through such an organization it is hoped to strengthen the interest of the graduates in the school and keep them in touch with one another. Those graduates who are interested in the plan but were unable to attend the meeting are asked to communicate with Miss Eleanor H. Frick, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Astor Library has engaged two of the graduates of the school — Miss Sarah S. Oddie, class of '95, and Miss Maria V. Leavitt, class of '96. It has also taken Miss Bertha Eger, of the reference department of the Pratt Institute Free Library, as a member of its cataloging staff. Miss Gertrude A. Brewster, class of '95, has been engaged for the cataloging staff of the Lenox Library, resigning her position at the Long Island branch of the Pratt Institute Free Library in order to take up this work in New York. She has been succeeded at the Long Island library by Miss Miriam S. Draper, class of '95. Miss Bertha G. Carr, class of '96, has been engaged by the Globe Company of New York City to catalog their library at Newburgh, N. Y.

## Reviews.

CATALOGUE of the public documents of the 53d Congress and of all departments of the government of the U. S. for the period from March 4, 1893, to June 30, 1895 [being the "Comprehensive index" provided for by the act approved Jan. 12, 1895]; prepared under the supervision of the Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1896. 638 p. O.

In the evolution of the cataloging of government publications, the last and the best step forward is the new catalog from Superintendent Crandall's office, covering public documents during the period of the 53d Congress, March 4, 1893, to June 30, 1895. The first step was the so-called "Descriptive catalogue"—which was not descriptive at all—of Ben. Perley Poore, the 1392 pages of which were devoted to an approximately chronological entry of government publications, so far as they could be run to earth, from September 5, 1774, to March 4, 1881, the end of the 46th Congress, and a brief reference index of minimum value. This hodgepodge, although useful for its material, has been of little use as a working catalog. The second step was the purposely brief list, arranged by departments, which was made a feature of the American Catalogue, taking up the work at the end of the Poore period and continuing it in the parts issued last year to June 30, 1895, like Mr. Crandall's catalog. The third step, if Mr. Hickcox's "Monthly catalogue" is not counted as a permanent catalog, was that of Dr. J. G. Ames's "Comprehensive index of the publications of the U. S. government covering the period 1889 to 1893," that of the 51st and 52d Congresses, issued in 1894, which adopted a tabular method presenting in the centre the briefest practicable entry arranged by subject, with references to the several forms in which the document appeared; on the right-hand side a memorandum of its place in the regular Senate and House documents, and on the left-hand side the name of the department issuing, the chairman of the committee, or other actual or constructive author. This was a valuable piece of work, but its tabular feature was something of a drawback in practical use.

The new catalog is thoroughly on the dictionary plan, having no appended index except one of "Governmental authors," being an alphabetical list of the departments and subdivisions, from which documents issue. It is almost a model in typography, the only serious criticism being that until the eye has become accustomed to the difference in types it is difficult to distinguish between the headings and subheadings which are respectively in antique or Clarendon of different sizes. After one has become accustomed to the catalog the difference is fairly evident. A good example of the catalog at its best will be found under the headings Libraries and Library. There are here nine entries under Libraries, being the titles of the general papers in the Chicago conference report, with 17 cross-references to specific subjects on which papers are included in that volume or to cognate entries; two under Library and Rolls Bureau; cross-references to names of members under Library committee; one on Library fittings, 14 under Library of Congress, two under Libraries of departments, one on Library pest, and one on Library training. This shows the minuteness of the work, which will probably be one ground of criticism of the catalog on the part of those unfamiliar with the value of close entries in such a catalog. The only defect that occurs to us is the difficulty of finding out comprehensively the publications of any one department, and perhaps this want could wisely be supplied by a second appendix, giving a bird's-eye view of the departments with their several subdivisions logically arranged underneath, and in each subdivision the regular lines of publication, thus grafting into this standard government catalog the most distinctive feature of the American Catalogue appendix.

The office of the Superintendent of Documents, and particularly Mr. F. A. Crandall himself, is to be heartily congratulated on this work, which for an initial volume is remarkably successful. The work was begun while Mr. J. H. Hickcox was cataloger in the office, but has been carried through to completion by Miss Edith E. Clarke, who succeeded to the office of head cataloger, and to whom Mr. Crandall gives pleasant and deserved credit in his preface. The coast is now clear for continuing the catalog of government publications from congress to congress in accordance with the provisions of the bill of 1895, with an excellent working model, and whether the work be continued backward on this excellent plan or on the plan adopted by Dr. Ames for the earlier volume, undoubtedly the present work will give the method for the succeeding volumes. Mention of the date of the passage of the bill providing for the office of the Superintendent of Documents, which was approved January 12, 1895, suggests a further word of praise for the enormous amount of work accomplished by the new bureau under great difficulties within so short a time. R. R. B.

## Library Economy and History.

### *GENERAL.*

THE *Library* contains in its December number several articles of interest in reference work. These are Butler Wood's paper on "The selection of books for a reference library," "Notes on the formation of a small reference library," by R. K. Dent, both read at the Buxton conference; and "On the place of specialization in library work," by Basil Anderton.

THE regents of the University of the State of New York have printed as a special pamphlet of 52 pages the proceedings of the li-

brary session at the 1896 University convocation. "This includes the remarkably strong paper on "The mission and missionaries of the book," by J. N. Larned, of the Buffalo Library, the addresses on "The correlation of library and school," by A. L. Peck and Superintendent J. A. Estee, of Gloversville, the admirable paper on "How to develop interest in the library," by W. E. Foster, of the Providence Public Library, and a full report of the discussions, which dealt interestingly with all these phases of library work. Those specially interested can obtain a copy without expense by addressing a post card to the Public libraries division, Regents' office, Albany, N. Y.

EXAMINATION Bulletin No. 10 of the University of the State of New York is devoted to "Regents' examination papers for the academic year 1896." (500 p. O.) Pages 349–380 are devoted to the question papers used at the 33d library examination, June 16–19, 1896.

*LOCAL.*

*Auburn, N. Y. Case Memorial L. The American Architect* of Nov. 21 publishes a number of competitive designs for the Case Memorial Library.

*Augusta, Me. Lithgow L.* On Dec. 4 a special meeting of the city council was held to consider the question of open shelves for the Lithgow Library. The question of whether or not it was desirable to permit free access to the shelves had previously been submitted to a committee of three. At the council meeting the committee's reports were presented. The majority report, signed by two members, stated that the matter had been carefully investigated and that information had been obtained from 11 Maine libraries, in only one of which were open shelves used. Their conclusion was that free access was impracticable under present conditions, and that the existing system should be given a fair trial. In the minority report the other member of the committee recommended "the adoption of the open-shelf system, with slight modifications, if such shall be found necessary to render this system practicable in this library." At the council meeting the majority report was voted down and the minority report accepted.

*Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L.* Branch 6 of the library was formally opened on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 14. The branch opened with about 6000 v. on its shelves and some 40 current periodicals in its reading-room. From present indications the use of the reading-room of this branch will surpass that of any other of the branches of the library. The branch is open from 2 to 9 p.m., and thus far there have been nearly 1000 readers a week in the reading-room. With the opening of this branch the combined circulation of the branches surpasses that of the central library.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY; by Lilian Whiting. (*In* Chicago *Advance*, Dec. 3, 1896.) 2 col.

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* The lithograph exhibition held early in December in the art-rooms of the library proved of general popular interest. It included lithographs designed for *Puck*, *Truth*, and other papers, advertising lithographs and "art" posters, and examples of black and white work.

*Bristol (Ct.) F. P. L.* The library was opened Dec. 1 in the attractive new building obtained by remodelling a suitable residence for library purposes. The building affords ample room, is attractively fitted up and well lighted, and is a delightful contrast to the previous crowded and inadequate quarters. The entrance leads through a hallway to the reception-room, in which is the delivery-counter, placed between this and the stack-room, with a capacity of 12,000 v. On the right is the librarian's private room, and in front is the reference-room. An easy flight of stairs leads to two pleasant reading-rooms on the second floor, where papers and magazines are to be found. Back of these is another stack-room, connected with the one on the first floor by a flight of stairs. There is also a large attic, easily reached, in which many books can be stored.

The Bristol Library has been in existence as a free public library only about five years, during which time it has received two bequests of $5000 each. Its nucleus dates from 1845, when a number of ladies formed a "New carpet society" for the purpose of raising money to buy a new carpet for the church. When this object was accomplished they converted the organization into a friendly society, and by sewing and making articles for sale, realized money for the purchase of books for common reading. In 1868 the society had accumulated a library of 445 volumes and had $70 in cash on hand. The Y. M. C. A. was then being formed in Bristol, and the ladies agreed to turn over to it their library (with the unexpended money) in trust to be forever maintained as a circulating library open to the public. The association housed and cared for it, twice replaced it after fires, and devoted the subscription fees received to its increase. By this means it had reached the number of 2528 volumes in 1891, when the first bequest of $5000 was received and the town voted to take over the library and appropriate an annual three-fourths of a mill tax for its maintenance. It now contains over 6000 v. Charles Wooding is librarian.

*Brookline (Mass.) P. L.* The library celebrated its 39th anniversary on Dec. 2 by throwing open the whole building to the public, thus giving the people an opportunity to examine for themselves the books on the shelves, and the librarian and his assistants to explain the practical work of the library to such as might be interested in it. The innovation proved a most popular one, and the library was visited by a large number of interested persons. A collection of West Indian photographs and a number of rare colored views of social events in England 200 years ago were on exhibition.

The library was first opened to the public Dec. 2, 1857.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *L.* The music department of the library, which numbers over 2000 v., has been augmented by the purchase of over 200 volumes of music, mostly by modern French and German composers. The addition consists of recent publications of pianoforte sheet-music for two and four hands, bound up into volumes; opera scores with words, and opera and orchestral scores arranged as pianoforte solos. Some 20 volumes of songs by Buck, Chaminade, McDowell, Tschaikowsky, and others, have been added to the department of vocal music, making altogether about 200 volumes of choice songs, both sacred and secular, by modern composers.

A feature of the library's work has been the use made of it by clubs and associations, for which reduced subscription rates are made. Several local clubs have long availed themselves of its facilities, but a rather new departure has been inaugurated by a club in one of the towns on Long Island about 40 miles from Brooklyn. In this case, and in consideration of a given number of subscribers at $5 a year, the library engages to pay for the weekly delivery and return of a package of books selected from lists furnished by the members of the club. This plan has been found quite satisfactory, and, it is thought, will lead to the establishment of other out-of-town deliveries in like manner.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L.* A new department has been opened in the Pratt Institute Free Library — the department of Art reference. It has been placed in charge of Miss Laura Palmer, formerly of the Fine Arts Department of the Institute, who is thoroughly equipped for the work by study and travel.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *P. L. A.* On Nov. 30 a committee of the association presented a petition to the board of aldermen, reciting the need of a public library in the city and the provisions of the law of 1892 looking toward its establishment, asking that directors be appointed by the mayor in accordance with that law, and submitting the following resolution for approval: "*Resolved*, That this common council does hereby determine that a public library and reading-room shall be established and maintained in the city of Brooklyn, under the provisions of chapter 441 of the laws of 1892 of the state of New York." The resolution was adopted, and on Dec. 8 was signed by the mayor. On the same date a delegation from the association visited the mayor, explained the objects of their body, and urged him to appoint the nine directors provided for by the law of 1892. The mayor expressed his willingness to accede to the request made. The efforts of the association to awaken public interest in the library matter culminated in an evening meeting at the Academy of Music on Jan. 14, following the all-day session of the N. Y. Library Association and the N. Y. Library Club. (*See* p. 18.)

*Buffalo* (*N. Y.*) *L.* On Dec. 1 a bust of Robert Burns, presented to the library by the St. Andrew's Scottish Society, was unveiled with interesting ceremonies. For a few days previous to and succeeding the unveiling the fine collection of Burns mss., owned by Robert B. Adams, of Buffalo, was on exhibition at the library.

*Butte* (*Mont.*) *P. L.* The figures showing the use of the library for the year ending Dec. 1, 1896, are as follows: Issued, home use 67,465; lib. use 44,946; attendance in ref. dept. 14,499. Nearly 2000 v. were added during the year, and the total number of v. in the library is now given as 20,572.

Mr. Davies, the librarian, has been untiring in his efforts to increase the use of the library and make it generally known, and his endeavors have proved successful. He contributed interesting articles on the growth and facilities of the library to the various holiday editions of the Butte papers, and he furnishes regular weekly library articles to the two local morning papers. The success of this method of library advertising may be estimated from the statistics showing the popular use of the library.

The library issues monthly typewritten lists of accessions at 10 cents a copy.

*Camden* (*Me.*) *F. P. L.* The library was opened to the public Dec. 1. It is the result of the appropriation of $1500 voted for the purpose at the annual election in the spring of 1896, which through public subscription was later raised to $2500. The library opens with about 1700 v., and a good selection of magazines and newspapers. It occupies two light and attractively fitted rooms in a business block. Miss Katharine W. Harding is librarian.

*Canastota* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* The library was opened on Dec. 4, and has been open regularly on week-day afternoons since that time. It is hoped that a reading-room will soon be established in connection with it.

*Chicago Hist. Soc. L.* The new building of the society at 142 Dearborn street was formally opened on the evening of Tuesday, Dec. 15.

*Chicago, John Crerar L.* The library will be opened to the public in its temporary quarters on the sixth floor of the Marshall Field & Co. building about Feb. 1. The cataloging is progressing rapidly, and the public reading-room is now nearly ready for use. There will be appropriate exercises when the library is opened.

*Chicago P. L.* At a meeting of the Public Library board, Nov. 28, a petition was received, signed by over 3000 citizens of Bohemian extraction, asking the board to purchase 1000 volumes of books by Bohemian authors. The board appropriated $250 for the purchase of several hundred volumes.

*Columbus, O.* On Dec. 10 a library council was formed for the purpose of formulating a plan of organization and a system of co-operation, particularly on the part of the pub-

lic libraries and the public schools; it is composed of all who are officially connected with libraries in the city, and shall act through an executive committee consisting of the librarians of the different libraries. There are three libraries in Columbus — the Public Library, the Public School Library, and the State Library — and while the council does not aim toward consolidation, it is expected that it will aid in promoting co-operation and mutual helpfulness among them.

*Columbus (O.) P. S. L.* Librarian Hensel inaugurated on Dec. 17, for experimental purposes, a travelling library among the outlying school buildings, similar in character, though less expensive, to that conducted by the state library. The purpose is to make the volumes in the library available to the poorer children who live too far away to walk to the library and are unable to pay street-car fare to and from their homes to obtain the books.

*Des Moines (Ia.) P. L.* The trustees held a meeting on Dec. 10, and agreed to dismiss the mandamus case brought against the city council, upon condition that the injunction suit against the library be abandoned, and that they be allowed to collect the remaining half of the levy for last year, and the council consent to levy a tax of two mills for the current year, one mill being for maintenance and one for building.

*Detroit (Mich.) P. L.* On Dec. 3 the library board voted to expend $100 for the purchase of books for the blind. The matter was placed in charge of Dr. C. Henri Leonard, who selected the following 40 books, which will cost exactly the sum allowed: "Friends in feathers and furs," 2 v.; "The song of Hiawatha," 2 v.; "Miscellaneous poems," 3 v.; "American history," Montgomery, 3 v.; "Swinton's Readings in nature's book," 2 v.; "Easy steps for little feet," Swinton and Cathcart, 2 v.; "Courtship of Miles Standish," "Evangeline," "The prisoner of Chillon," "The vision of Sir Launfal," "The legend of Sleepy Hollow," "The prince and the pauper," 2 v.; "Tanglewood tales," 2 v.; "The rape of the lock," "Motley's Dutch Republics," "As you like it," Select poems, by Whittier, Longfellow, Lowell, and Bryant, 4 v.; "English history," Montgomery, 3 v.; "Merchant of Venice"; "Snow-bound"; "The war of independence," Fiske; "Washington and the spy"; "Sindbad the sailor"; "Ali Baba and Aladdin"; "Jack and the beanstalk, and other stories"; "Birds' Christmas Carol"; "Frederick the Great and his times"; "A Christmas carol," Dickens; "Five little fairy-tales"; "Nature's myths and stories"; "Life in the sea"; "Hamlet"; "Outlines of the world's history," 5 v.; "Constitution of the United States"; "Much ado about nothing"; "Midsummer night's dream"; "The discovery of America"; "Bits of bird life"; "Sketches of the Orient"; "Hero-tales from our history," 2 v.; "The conspiracy of Pontiac." The library had previously received a gift of 30 books for the blind from a resident of Detroit, whose name was not made public. All of these books are in modified Braille.

An examination of the use of the foreign books in the library has shown an average circulation of 77% among the German books, 34% among the French books, and 138% among the Polish books. In this latter division the library possesses about 800 v., which have been circulated 842 times for home use and 266 times for reference use during the past three months. The extraordinarily high ratio of withdrawals in the Polish department will probably lead to its enlargement.

*Evanston, Ill.* A meeting to consider the relation between the free public library and the public school was held on Dec. 4 at the high-school building. It was attended by the 100 school-teachers belonging to the first, second, and third school districts, members of the school boards and library board, and others interested in educational work. The first address was made by Superintendent F. W. Nichols, of the second district, who told of the benefits in Evanston of the free circulation of public library books among the public school children, in which the school has been used as a sub-library. The teachers are beginning by this system to direct the reading of their pupils. Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Milwaukee Public Library, discussed the value of the utmost co-operation between the library and the schools. She said that the teachers of Milwaukee had distributed during the year 68,000 volumes among their pupils. Miss M. E. Ahern, secretary of the library section of the National Educational Association, also spoke. She called attention to the kind of literature offered in school-reading and the opening up of possibilities of getting pupils to read outside because of tastes for reading formed in the school-room. President J. W. Thompson, of the Evanston library board, was chairman of the meeting, and made a few remarks at the beginning of the session.

*Fishkill Landing, N. Y. Howland L.* (Rpt.) Added 245; total 6314. Issued 6141 (fict. 5510). Receipts $476.81; expenses $338.46. There are 120 subscribers and 48 stockholders.

*Frederick, Md. Artz L.* The will of Mrs. Ann Graham Ross, of Frederick, has recently been filed for probate in the Orphans' Court of that city. Her grandfather, Thomas Johnson, was the first governor of Maryland, and his portrait and a number of autograph letters of George Washington, John Jay, and others, addressed to him were in possession of Mrs. Ross, and are now bequeathed by her. The various articles are to be deposited for safe keeping with the Maryland Historical Society until the establishment of the Christian Burr Artz Library in Frederick.

Since the Artz Library has never been mentioned in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, a brief sketch of it may be in order. The wife of C. B. Artz was Mrs. Margaret C. Artz, who was a Miss Thomas, of Frederick. Mrs. Artz died in Chicago, March 27, 1887, many years after the

death of her husband. They had but one child, Miss Victorienne Thomas Artz. Mrs. Artz in her will gave the daughter $25,000, absolutely, and the income, during life, of the balance of the estate, which was placed in trust. Should the daughter have issue the estate should go to her heirs, otherwise the library in Frederick should be established as mentioned above. Mrs. Artz named the three trustees who are to receive the library upon the death of the daughter. Vacancies in the board of trustees are to be filled by the board of aldermen of Frederick, with the provision that two members of said board shall be members of the German Reformed Church, in good and regular standing, and the other member shall be a member of the Episcopalian church. The estate is now estimated, in round numbers, at about $150,000. Miss V. T. Artz, on whose death depends the establishment of the Frederick Library, is the lady who recently gave $10,000 to the Boston Public Library for the Longfellow Memorial Library.

*Hamburg* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* The library was opened on Dec. 18, with interesting exercises conducted by the leading women's clubs of Hamburg and Buffalo.

*Hempstead* (*L. I.*) *Circulating L. A.* (8th rpt.) Added 555; total 2155. Receipts $322.90; expenses $224.60.

*Homestead, Pa.* The contract for the new library, music-hall, and club-house building, presented by Andrew Carnegie to the citizens of Homestead, was awarded on Nov. 24 to William Miller & Sons, of Pittsburg, for $250,000. It is expected to have the building ready for dedication next June. The structure was designed by Alden & Harlow, and will have a frontage of 226 feet, with a depth of 98 feet. The style is French Renaissance. It will be three stories high, and will be built of stone, Pompeiian brick and terra-cotta, with a high pitched tile roof. The interior will be finished in ornamental stucco work and quartered oak. Aside from the library proper, the principal feature of the new structure will be the club-room, gymnasium, and swimming-pool. The club-house will occupy the right of the building.

*Houston, Tex. Library day.* Nov. 25 was Library day in the schools of Houston, and contributions of books and money were generally received for the school libraries. The Thanksgiving day exercises were combined with addresses and recitations on the value of books.

*Hutchinson, Kan.* The local Woman's Club has been so far successful in its efforts to establish a free public library that quarters have been secured in one of the business blocks, and are now being altered and fitted up for library purposes. The library will be opened within a short time, and will be wholly free the public.

*Illinois College, Jacksonville, Ill.* The corner-stone of the Jones Memorial Library, recently given to Illinois College by Dr. H. K. Jones, was laid on Nov. 11.

*Jamestown, N. Y. Prendergast F. L.* On Thursday, Dec. 3, the fifth anniversary of the opening of the library was observed as Founder's day, with interesting exercises. It was the first celebration of the kind, and was largely attended. Among the speakers were W: R. Eastman, of the state library, and J. N. Larned, of the Buffalo Library.

*Massapequa, L. I. Floyd-Jones L.* The library given to Massapequa by Col. De Lancey Floyd-Jones was opened Oct. 29. The building is a modest structure, with a frontage of about 20 feet, and a depth, including its piazza, of 30 feet. The roof is what is usually called a hip-roof, projecting over the piazza, and supported by four neat columns. The interior walls and ceiling are of North Carolina pine, varnished. The room contains a handsome fireplace mantel and a few pictures. The shelving will hold about 2500 volumes. The room is lighted by four Gothic windows, two on either side, and a smaller window in front, all with translucent glass. The library is chartered in accordance with the laws of the University of the State of New York, and is directed by a board of nine trustees.

*Michigan, lib. commission for.* A bill providing for the establishment of a Michigan free library commission is to be introduced into the next legislature by Representative-elect John Atkinson, of Detroit. It was drawn under the supervision of Mr. Utley, of the Detroit Public Library, with the co-operation of the state library association.

*Michigan State L., Lansing.* (Biennial rpt.—two years ending June 30, '96.) Added 9388; books for travelling libs. 2000; total not given. 46,300 books and pm. have been received from the state for distribution and exchange.

A considerable portion of the report is devoted to the travelling libraries system inaugurated under the law of 1895. "The object of the law was to bring the library into closer and more sympathetic touch with the people of the state, and to remove from the public mind the idea that the taxpayers of the state were debarred from the privileges of an institution to the support of which they were contributing. With this in view, the 'associate' and 'travelling library' systems were embodied in the law, and it is a pleasure to state that both of these new departures in library work have been in every way successful." Under the act of 1895 10 libraries have become associates of the state library and 35 users of associate libraries have obtained books from the state library; "in no case has the privilege been abused, and the results have been most satisfactory." Travelling libraries of 50 v. each have been established and have been sent to 43 towns or associations, 44 such libraries have been kept in circulation, and the statistics of their use present a gratifying showing; in addition to these, special collections have been

sent to five study clubs. The total circulation of the books from May, 1895, to June 30, 1896, was 7473; no. readers 1483.

The appendix includes a classed list of additions to the library for the period, reports of the associate libraries, and an index to the Jennison collection.

*Middletown, Ct. Berkeley Divinity School, Williams L.* The fine library building, erected as a memorial to Bishop Williams, of the Berkeley Divinity School, was on Nov. 18 formally transferred to the school authorities, with appropriate exercises. The building, which cost $20,000, was erected by the church people of the diocese as a testimonial to Bishop Williams's work in Connecticut.

*Minnesota, lib. commission for.* A bill providing for the establishment of a library commission and authorizing the maintenance of travelling libraries will be presented to the legislature at the winter session. A similar bill was introduced last year, but failed. This year the bill will be introduced early and will be vigorously pushed; it has had the earnest support and indorsement of the state library association and of the state federation of women's clubs.

*New Brunswick (N. J.) F. L.* The reference-room has recently been refitted, with shelving, handsome tables and chairs, by one of the trustees, whose gift was made anonymously; it is now the most attractive room in the library.

*New Hampshire State L., Concord.* At a recent meeting of the governor and council of New Hampshire, William D. Chandler was appointed a trustee of the state library, vice Frank S. Streeter, term expired.

*New Orleans, La. Fisk F. and P. L.* On Dec. 7 Mr. William Beer, of the Howard Memorial Library, was elected librarian of the new library, which it is expected will be opened to the public some time in January. Mrs. Culbertson, the former librarian of the City Library, was made assistant librarian, and three assistants were appointed. The library rooms are now being adequately fitted up, and the work of arranging, cataloging, and adding to the books, which form the nucleus of the collection, is being rapidly prosecuted.

*New York, city lib. appropriation.* The following appropriations for the city libraries were made by the board of estimate and appropriation for the new year: N. Y. Free Circulating Library, $50,000, an increase of $15,000 over the previous year; Aguilar Library, $20,000, an increase of $6000; Webster Free Library $3500, an increase of $500; Mechanics and Tradesmen's Library, $15,000, an increase of $3000; Cathedral Free Library, $3500; University Settlement Library, $2000; Washington Heights Library, $2000; Riverside Library, $750; Maimonides Library, $750; and St. Agnes Library, $100.

*New York, Gen. Soc. of Mechanics and Tradesmen.* At the December meeting the new library site recently purchased through the president of the society, at 48th street and 7th avenue, was accepted. As the leases on the property bought do not expire for some time, the new library building will not be commenced, perhaps, within the year.

*New York P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* A fine collection of works of art, given to the Astor Library in 1890 by W. W. Astor, and taken from the collection of John Jacob Astor, was recently placed on exhibition at the Lenox Library. It includes Gilbert Stuart's portrait of Washington, Ceracchi's bust of Alexander Hamilton, paintings by Meissonier, Lefebvre, Robert Fleury, and others, and some fine bronzes.

*New York State L., Albany.* Two of the rooms occupied by the state library have been taken by the senate committee on finance for permanent use, in spite of protests made by the regents and Mr. Dewey at a conference on the subject held Nov. 23. The library, however, may resume occupation of the rooms in May, and continue it until the legislature reassembles in January. The affair has been made the basis of an argument of the need of a building for the individual use of the state library.

*Newark (N. J.) P. L.* It was decided by the trustees, at a meeting on Nov. 7, to engage Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, professor of architecture at Columbia University, as advisory architect of the proposed new library building. Prof. Hamlin's work will begin at once and continue until the specifications for the new building have been made. He will suggest the general features on which the architects who will compete will be asked to base their plans. Already a number of prominent architects have asked to be notified when plans are to be submitted. The board has also appointed a committee to decide upon a desirable site for the new building.

The annual exhibition of art works was held at the library on Nov. 18.

*Newark, N. Y.* At a meeting of the village trustees on Nov. 30 it was voted to establish a free public library, in accordance with the laws of 1892. 10 trustees were elected and a library organization effected, and the library will probably be an established fact within a short time.

*Newburyport (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 883; total 31,731. Issued, home use 38,561 (fict. and juv. 74.22%). New registration 540; total cardholders 5916.

The work of classifying and cataloging was begun May 1, 1896, and by September all the works of fiction as well as those on New England history and genealogy had been arranged and the cards exposed for the use of the public. Since these departments were completed the work of classifying all the books before any further cataloging was attempted has been taken up, and 7033 volumes have received classification.

*Ogdensburg* (*N. Y.*) *P. L.* A loan exhibition of curious and interesting relics was held in the library building on Nov. 25 and successive days, under the auspices of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Its object was to secure funds for the establishment of a deparment of American industry, which the chapter expects to provide for the library.

*Owatonna, Minn.* The city council on Dec. 16 appointed a board of nine trustees to assume charge of the $10,000 recently left to the city by Mrs. E. V. Hunewill, for the purpose of providing and maintaining a public library and reading-room. The provisions of the will make it necessary for the city to provide $15,000, to be used with the amount named, and as this has not yet been provided, it becomes necessary for a board of trustees to be elected to receive the bequest and take steps to provide the $15,000. It will probably be two years before the project will be perfected.

*Pelham* (*N. H.*) *P. L.* The new library building was dedicated on Dec. 2, with elaborate exercises, the day being generally observed as a holiday by the townspeople. There was a large attendance of invited guests, among them a special representation of G. A. R. men. The exercises were opened in the memorial-room of the building, where addresses were made by C. W. Hobbs, chairman of the building committee, and C. W. Seavey, chairman of the selectmen. The audience then adjourned to the church, where there was prayer, singing, and speeches by F. H. Butler, of the G. A. R., Rev. Augustus Berry, G. C. Gilman, of the state library commission, and others.

The building was erected by popular vote at the town election of April, 1895, and it is a library and memorial building combined, one room in the structure, known as the memorial-room, being dedicated to the memory of all the soldiers who went from Pelham to the American wars. The library building is located in one of the most conspicuous situations in the town, near the church. It is a modest structure. of tasteful design, of brick, with the front entrance in the centre, and reached by neat steps of cut granite. On entering the vestibule directly to the right is the room for the use of the town officers. Passing through the vestibule the delivery-room is reached. On the left is the memorial-room, which runs the entire depth of the building, and is lighted on three sides. The walls and ceilings are frescoed, and the floor, as are all the floors in the building, is of hard wood. A feature of the room is the collection of marble tablets on the walls, containing in gilt the names of all residents of the town who have served in the wars from Queen Anne's time until the rebellion. The stack-room is provided with shelves capable of holding all the books the library will receive for many years.

*Pennsylvania, libraries in.* The report of the state superintendent of instruction gives a brief review of the libraries of the state. There has been considerable progress in the establishment of school libraries. "One county superintendent reports that there are now in his county, outside of the large and populous districts, 173 libraries, containing about 11,000 volumes. All except eight of these libraries were established within the last 12 years." The Carnegie libraries, the Scranton, Wilkesbarre, Warren, and Cambria libraries are briefly noted.

*Perth Amboy* (*N. J.*) *F. L.* The library was opened as a free public library on Nov. 1. It had previously been conducted as a subscription library, and the change was effected by popular vote at last year's fall election. It contains about 4000 v.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The first exhibition of the season opened at the library on Nov. 19, and consisted of a number of valuable and curious art works. Among them were plates from the "Zapotican collection," the "Antiquities of the Russian Empire," and some curious and rare old books and fac-similes.

On Dec. 23 an interesting collection of books and memorials relating to Napoleon were put on exhibition in the library. It was largely made up of the comprehensive and valuable collection of Mr. W. J. Latta, of Philadelphia, and included rare autographs and portraits, in addition to many contemporary books, manuscripts, caricatures, etc.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* Dec. 15 was "city day" at the library, when all the members of the council, heads of departments, clerks, and their friends were invited by the officers of the institution to visit the different departments during the afternoon. The majority accepted the invitation and seemed to enjoy the innovation.

*Plainfield* (*N. J.*) *P. L.* On Jan. 1 the issue of books through sub-stations went into effect. Two branch stations have been secured for the more out-of-the-way districts of the city, and deliveries will be made from one three times a week, from the other once a week.

*Port Huron* (*Mich.*) *P. L.* It is intended to have during the winter a series of lectures or talks in the public library upon questions connected with books and reading. Mrs. M. C. Spencer, state librarian, will probably be one of the speakers and will discuss "Travelling libraries" or "Study clubs."

*Quincy* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* At a recent meeting of the library board the need of a catalog of children's books was presented by Mr. Moulton, and it was decided that the manuscript of such a catalog be prepared and submitted to the board for further consideration.

*Ridley Park, Pa.* The newly-arranged and refitted library will shortly be opened in the tower-room of the public school. A number of new books have been added, and the library has been put in excellent working order.

*Rochester, N. Y. Reynolds L.* (11th rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '96.) Added 2214; total

33,451. Issued, home use 19,021; ref. use 7105; attendance 98,001.

During the year the library was removed to new quarters on Spring street, a reading-room being maintained in the old rooms in the Arcade building. The library committee suggest the experiment of a course of lectures "to bring the library into sympathetic and beneficial relation with the reading public."

*Rome, N. Y. Jervis L.* (2d rpt. — year ending Dec. 1, '96.) Added 1178; total 11,046. Issued 42,151 (fict. 71.5 %). New registration 1079; total card-holders 2680. Receipts $4623.29; expenses $4598.21.

Miss Beach, the librarian, urges the need of a children's room, and speaks of the difficulty of providing adequately for the large number of children who use the library in constantly increasing force. More books are also needed. One home library has been established through the generosity of a library friend, and is now in successful use.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The wedding of Miss Nellie McCreary, of the cataloging department of the library, was celebrated on the evening of Nov. 28, at the cattery (known to unscientific minds as the catalog-room), where a catfeast was given, partly in sorrow, partly in honor of Miss McCreary, who was about to desert the glorious ranks of Catdom and become plain Mrs. J. W. De Laughter. At five p.m. sharp the chief cat had given the signal,

> "Come, put your work away,
> For now's the time for play."

And promptly accession-book, shelf lists, and catalog cards vanished, desks were closed and typewriters extinguished, and those who a few minutes before were dignified and industrious cats had suddenly become bustling and important housewives, bent upon preparing a feast worthy the occasion. For once order cards were of less importance than *menu* cards, and the question of how to get the dear little ice-cream cats out of the moulds without injuring their sweet little noses was of more interest than the nicest question of classification would have been.

By seven o'clock the room had been changed to a real banquet-hall, the table spread with fine linen and dainty china, and a profusion of flowers everywhere. 12 covers had been laid, each being marked by a place card containing pictures of a cat, and a few lines of verse cleverly adapted to fit position or fad of the individual. Mr. Crunden's card represented a big black cat with the lines:

> "Why should I long the flock to keep
> Who lost my heart while I preserved my sheep?"

and that of the bride to be — the deserting cat — an owl and pussy cat in a pea-green boat with

> "Oh, lovely pussy, pussy, my love,
> . . . . . .
> Oh, let us be married, too long we have tarried."

These were the work of an office cat who purred gratefully under the praises showered upon her.

Though it is not generally known that the feline tribe aspire to mount the winged Pegasus, yet this occasion inspired no less than three poetical mews and a prose chronicle of the origin of the banquet. Miss McCreary went to her southern home not only "trailing clouds of glory" but also good wishes and amateur poetry. Taken as a class the cats proved themselves admirable hostesses and "good providers," and Mr. Crunden's amiable wish that the banquet, though not the occasion, be frequently repeated, is echoed, with private reservations, by each individual cat.

*Salem (O.) P. L.* The library now contains 1400 v. In the short time it has been open the circulation has steadily increased, and the list of stockholders and subscribers now numbers 108. It is open on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

*Seattle (Wash.) P. L.* At a recent council meeting it was decided to allow the library an additional appropriation of $3000 for the new year. This will give it an income of about $11,000.

*Shreveport (La.) L. A.* Added 228; total 836. Issued 4712. Receipts $268.60; expenses $174.02. There are 218 members.

*South Norwalk (Ct.) P. L.* An exhibition illustrating the oyster industry and the natural history of the bivalve was held at the public library early in December and proved to be of general public interest. It consisted of the collection of David C. Sanford, engineer of the State Shellfish Commission, and was displayed in a series of cases in the art-room. Popular talks on oyster culture were also delivered by Mr. Sanford. Shortly after the exhibit the collection was taken by Mr. Sanford to Germany, where the government is trying to revive the oyster industry.

*Terre Haute (Ind.) P. L.* The library opened a month or so ago in its new and attractive quarters, formerly the property of the Unitarian church. The building cost originally $6000, and $3000 has been spent in alterations and improvement; it is not intended as a permanent home, but to serve until an entirely new building can be erected.

*Washington, D. C.* At a meeting of the centre council of the Civic Centre on Nov. 27, Miss Clark, from the committee on adult education, reported that the home library committee had started the plan of establishing home libraries in those sections of the city remote from access to the free library. One library is already under way, and it is hoped to get others ready in a short time. A visitor from the central committee superintends the distribution of the books.

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* The district commissioners have presented an estimate for an appropriation of $8300 for the support of the library in compliance with the law passed in May last (*see* L. J., 21:298–299). This is the first estimate made for the purpose, and it

has not yet received congressional sanction. The amount asked for seems rather inadequate when it is considered that the library is but poorly supplied with books, nearly all of which have been given to it, and that its field of work is just opening and should have hearty support.

*Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. L., Madison.* The 44th annual meeting of the society was held Dec. 10, and the report of the secretary, R. G. Thwaite, was presented. The accessions of the year were 5247 books, 3755 pm., giving a total of 9002, of which 66%, or 5817 were gifts. "The fiscal year just closed, has been for the society a season of quiet progress. Although seriously hampered for funds, the accessions have, in most departments, been customarily large; public interest in our work is becoming more manifest; the new home for the society, so generously provided for by the legislature of 1895, is in course of construction, and bids fair to meet our most sanguine expectations; and there is every reason to hope that we shall be enabled to remove our collections thither about two years hence — perhaps to hold our 46th annual meeting within its walls."

*Wisconsin Travelling Ls.* F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Library Commission, contributed an interesting account of the success of the travelling libraries established by Senator Stout, of that state, to the Milwaukee *Sentinel* of Sunday, Dec. 13. The article has been reprinted in pamphlet form by the commission. It is a striking demonstration of the good that has been accomplished by these libraries in the more remote rural communities of the state.

*FOREIGN.*

*Belfast (Irel.) F. P. L.* (8th rpt.) Added, lending l. 539; total 17,123; issued 183,145 (fict. 66.22%); no. borrowers 6359. Added, ref. l. 209; total 17,242; issued 55,062; no. readers 23,656. The visitors to the news-room are estimated at 1,108,083, the highest ever recorded; the art gallery and museum were visited by 393,944 persons.

*Bradford (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (26th rpt.) Added 5693; total 81,621. Issued 595,234 (fict. 478,250), of which 76,697 were used in the ref. l. Visits 954,835, a net increase of 25,687 over the previous year (includes visits to art gallery and museum). Total borrowers 10,912. These statistics are for the central circulating and reference libraries and for the seven branches.

The reference collection of books on useful arts has been cataloged according to the Dewey classification.

*Leipzig, Germany.* Gustav Fock, of Leipzig, announces that he has become agent for the sale of two important private libraries — that of the late Prof. von Kekule, of the University of Bonn, and that of the late Prof. Heinrich Brunn, of Munich. The Kekule collection is devoted almost wholly to science, and includes complete sets of nearly all the scientific journals, transactions, etc.; it comprises about 18,000 volumes, dissertations, and pamphlets, most of which are bound, and is rich in the alchemistic works of earlier centuries. The collection is valued at 32,000 marks. The Brunn library is a valuable collection of works relating to archæology, including many valuable serial sets. One of its special features are the 136 volumes in which are gathered the many small essays, reports, dissertations, etc., which afforded Prof. Brunn much of his working material. The collection is priced at 14,000 marks.

*Manchester (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (44th rpt.) Added 9055; total 266,514 (ref. l. 107,449). Issued, home use 978,616 (fict. 798,004); ref. use 419,949. No. borrowers 49,987. Visits to news-rooms 4,289,574. Sunday use, ref. 12,221; news-room and juv. rooms 139,626. The library "plant" includes, besides the main reference library, 11 lending libraries and four reading-rooms, with which the 15 news-rooms are connected.

"The most notable incident in the history of the libraries during the past year has been the decision of the House of Lords in the appeal of your committee against the assessment of the libraries to income tax. This important case began in Oct., 1893, with an ineffectual appeal to the Manchester income tax commissioners. Further appeals were dismissed by the queen's bench division in Nov., 1894, and by the court of appeal in Jan., 1895, and then your committee resolved to carry the case to the House of Lords, which, on 31st July, 1896, reversed, with costs, the judgments of the courts below. This judgment affects not only the Manchester public libraries, but the whole of such institutions throughout the country, and the committee have received warm thanks for their action from several corporations and from the library association. The committee acknowledged with gratitude the assistance of 23 library authorities, who contributed sums varying from £5 to £50 to a guarantee fund for the expenses of the last appeal."

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Bangor (Me.) P. L.* By the will of Augustus D. Manson, of Bangor, the library is bequeathed $10,000 for a new building.

*Boston P. L.* The sum of $10,000 has been given to the library by Miss Victorienne Thomas Artz, of Chicago, for the establishment of what shall be known as the Longfellow memorial collection, to consist of rare editions of verse or prose by American or foreign authors; it may also include mss.

*Ford City, Pa.* On Nov. 21, Capt. John Ford, a wealthy manufacturer and founder of Ford City, announced that he intended to erect a library and opera-house in Ford City for the use of the public. The estimated cost of the building will be about $30,000, and the giver plans to stock the library with about 25,000 v.

*Linwood, O.* By the will of the late Miss Phœbe Ferris, of Linwood, that town is be-

queathed the large "Ferris homestead" tract of land, on which is a fine residence, to be used for the purposes of a free public library, to be called "The Joseph Ferris Memorial Library." The exact value of the bequest has not yet been made public.

*Paulina, Iowa.* By the will of the late F. G. Frothingham, of Boston, the town of Paulina receives $1500 for a public library, and $500 for the purchase of books, provided the town will furnish a site.

*Princeton Univ. L.* It was announced on Dec. 14 that Junius S. Morgan, of New York City, had given to the library his fine collection of early editions of Virgil, valued at about $50,000. The collection will be placed in the library as soon as the new building is completed.

*Stoughton, Mass.* By the will of the late Henry L. Pierce, of Boston, the town of Stoughton is to receive $25,000 for books for a free public library.

*Tilden bequests.* On Dec. 23 Judge Beekman, of the Supreme Court, rendered a decision in the protracted Tilden will case, that declares invalid the clause in Mr. Tilden's will providing for the establishment of free libraries at New Lebanon and at Yonkers. The decision states that "No time is specified within which the trusts are to be executed, and the law is well settled that in the case of a charitable trust such a limitation is indispensable to their validity. These attempted dispositions are therefore void, and the executors and trustees rest under no duty with respect to them." The fund created for the purpose will now revert to the heirs.

## Practical Notes.

MENDING BOOKS. — In the process lectures on bookbinding delivered before the Pratt Institute Library School, Miss Evelyn Nordhoff illustrated practically several methods of mending torn or perforated pages. In rebinding, the holes made in the fold of the sheet by the stitches or saw-marks of the former binding were so repaired as to be almost imperceptible. A bit of paper, as nearly as possible of the same texture as the page, was split, lightly touched with gum, and laid over the hole. The splitting of the paper made it almost as light as tissue, while it left a rough surface to catch and hold the gum much more satisfactorily than does the tissue usually used. An ordinary tear in the edge of a page was mended by tipping the torn edges lightly with gum, joining them together and pressing them between separate bits of paper similar in texture. After these had adhered to the mended page they were gently torn away, leaving a sufficient film behind them to firmly secure to the joined edges. A page from the edge of which a piece had been torn out required a little different treatment. If it were possible to find the missing bit, it might be inserted by lightly tipping the edges with gum, inserting it in place and pressing the pages between bits of paper, to be afterwards pulled gently away; but if a new piece had to be put in, the method adopted was to trace lightly on a bit of paper similar in quality to the page to be repaired the outline of the tear, and then to tear the paper in the desired shape. The tearing gives the necessary roughened bevel edge, and the bit is then inserted in the manner previously described.

ADHESIVE PAPER. — Gaylord Bros., of Syracuse, N. Y., have recently put upon the market an "Adhesive parchment paper," specially intended for library use in repairing torn pages of books, magazines, or sheet music. The paper possesses much tensile strength, and its transparency allows the torn page to be easily read after it has been mended. It is particularly useful for repairing school-books, and should be welcome in the circulating division of libraries, especially for popular fiction, where the more costly or tedious methods of repairing are out of the question. Samples may be obtained of the manufacturers, P. O. box 493, Syracuse, N. Y.

LIBRARY-STACK. (Described in *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, Nov. 3, 1896. 77: 723). il.

## Librarians.

BEER, William, librarian of the Howard Memorial Library, of New Orleans, was on Dec. 7 elected librarian of the new Fisk Free Public Library of that city, which is to be opened this month. Mr. Beer is well known as an effective worker, and he has brought the Howard Library into the front rank among the reference libraries of the country. His appointment will not interfere with his direction of that library, but he will now act as librarian of the two institutions. Mr. Beer has been enthusiastic in his support of the free library since it was first planned a year or so ago, and he had been acting as adviser to the directors since the passage of the city ordinance in September last, transferring direct control of the library and its funds to them. He advocates the close co-operation of the Howard and the Fisk libraries, the former serving as a reference the latter as a circulating library, and he will undoubtedly make the new institution an important factor in the educational development of the city.

BOYD, Mrs. L. J., was on Dec. 4 appointed librarian of the Harlem Library of New York City.

BROWNE, Miss Nina E. The recent statement in these columns that Miss Browne had severed her connection with the Library Bureau to take charge of the cataloging work of the A. L. A. Publishing Section was not wholly accurate. Miss Browne while acting as cataloger for the Publishing Section is also retained by the Library Bureau as consulting librarian.

CRUNDEN, Frederick M., of the St. Louis Public Library, has accepted the invitation of the New York State Library School Alumni Association to deliver the annual association lecture at the New York State Library School this spring. Mr. Crunden was the unanimous choice of the executive committee of the Association, which selects the lecturer each year, and it was a matter of general congratulation that he was able to accept the invitation.

CURRY, Miss Harriet E., librarian of the East Liverpool (O.) City Library, died on Nov. 18, of typhoid fever. Miss Curry had been a teacher in the public schools of East Liverpool for several years before she became librarian.

DE LAUGHTER—MCCREARY. Married in Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 2, 1892, Mr. J. W. De Laughter, of Charlotte, N. C., and Miss Nellie McCreary, late assistant cataloger at the St. Louis Public Library.

DORTCH, Miss Ellen, formally entered the field as a candidate for the office of state librarian of Georgia on Dec. 11, when the bill making women eligible to that position passed the state senate by a vote of 29 to 5; on Dec. 3 it passed the house by a vote of 115 to 20. The bill was introduced largely through her influence, and strong pressure is now being used to insure her appointment. Miss Dortch is now assistant state librarian. After the passage of the bill Miss Dortch issued an address of thanks "To the people of Georgia," through the local press.

EDWARDS, Mrs. Jennie, widow of the late Major John N. Edwards, has been appointed state librarian of Missouri for a term of six years, succeeding W. J. Zevely, resigned.

GROVER, Rev. J. L., librarian of the Columbus (O.) Public Library, celebrated his 91st birthday on Dec. 12. Mr. Grover was formerly in the ministry of the Methodist church, but has been librarian of the Columbus Library for over 20 years. He is in excellent health and is at his desk in the library every day. His wife, who is six years his junior, is still living.

HOFFMAN, Charles W., for many years librarian of the law department of the Congressional Library, died at his home in Frederick, Md., on December 28. Mr. Hoffman, who was 67 years of age at the time of his death, was appointed law librarian of the Congressional Library by Mr. Spofford in 1878. He was a lawyer, and an intimate friend of Justice Field, Judge Morris, Dr. Toner, and other well-known residents of Washington. Mr. Hoffman was a distinguished linguist. He retired from the library some years ago on account of ill health; he was unmarried and leaves an estate of about $80,000.

HOWELL, A. C., was on Nov. 20 elected librarian of the Iowa City (Ia.) Public Library, which was but recently established.

MARVIN, Miss Mabel, who was in the Armour Institute library class from 1895–6, has left the library staff of Armour Institute to accept a position as assistant cataloger in the St. Louis Public Library.

MATHEWS, W. P., M.D., was on Oct. 31 elected state librarian of California, succeeding the late W. D. Perkins. Dr. Mathews was born in Virginia in 1843, and was educated at Georgetown College and the University of Virginia. He came to California in 1870, and settled at Tehama, where he entered upon the practice of medicine, which occupation he followed successfully for 15 years. He served in the legislature during the sessions of 1880, 1881, 1887, 1889, and 1893, representing Tehama and Colusa counties, Tehama county and Tehama and Trinity counties. Two years ago he accepted the position of assistant librarian of the state library at the request of his friend, Mr. Perkins. His election was unanimous on the part of the trustees. No changes in the personnel of the library staff will be made.

MILLEDGE, Col. John, for eight years past state librarian of Georgia, has issued a statement to the local press, briefly giving his record as head of the state library and enclosing several letters on the same subject from well-known law-book publishers. Col. Milledge's term of office expires this year, and the appointment will be made next summer for the period of four years. There are already about half a dozen candidates for the office.

MURDOCK, John, has been appointed in charge of the scientific department at the Boston Public Library. Mr. Murdock, who was formerly connected with the Smithsonian Institution, is a graduate of Harvard (class of '73); he is well known as a scientist and is an accomplished linguist.

NOYES, Miss Marcia C., on Nov. 16 began her duties as librarian of the library of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland. This library is in Baltimore and contains some 10,000 volumes. Since July, 1893, Miss Noyes had been in the service of the Enoch Pratt Free Library.

SHARP, Miss Katharine L., director of the department of library economy, Armour Institute, delivered a course of library extension lectures at Cleveland, O., Dec. 10–24. This course was the first one given under the university extension division of the University of Chicago, and is the result of the work of the Bureau of Information of the Illinois State Library Association.

WELLMAN, Hiller C., formerly assistant librarian at the Boston Athenæum, has been appointed superintendent of branch libraries and stations of the Boston Public Library. The position is a newly-created one, and should be effective in extending the usefulness of the library in this direction. There are now 10 branches, four reading-rooms, 11 delivery stations, and 15 fire companies that have books delivered to them.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BINGHAMTON (*N. Y.*) CITY SCHOOL L. First supplement to the finding list. December, 1896. 24 p.

A decimal class list, with author and title fiction list.

—— Catalogue of works on pedagogy in the library. 4 p.

BOOKS OF 1896. The *Independent* of Nov. 19 devotes nearly six pages to a classified list of the best books of the year. Publisher and price of each work is given, together with a brief description of its contents.

The BOSTON ATHENÆUM will shortly publish a catalog of its collection of books from the library of George Washington, compiled by A. P. C. Griffin. The collection comprises some 300 volumes, purchased from Henry Stevens in 1848 for $3800, which was subscribed for the purpose by about 70 residents of Boston, Cambridge, and Salem. Mr. Griffin has made careful examination of all of Washington's letters in the State Department at Washington and elsewhere, and has extracted all available information relating to his books, and annotations including this data will form a useful feature of the catalog. In addition to the books owned by Washington, the catalog will include a number of other volumes belonging to the Washington family, and the Athenæum's large collection of Washingtoniana. In an appendix will be given the list of Washington's books, as shown by the appraiser's inventory filed in the Orphans' Court of Fairfax County, Va. This list records about 1000, and includes nearly all the books in the Athenæum collection. Any information regarding the present ownership of the other volumes shown on the list will be gladly received by W. C. Lane, librarian of the Athenæum, Boston.

The CLEVELAND (*O.*) P. L. has issued two excellent little reference lists on Thanksgiving day and on Christmas, compiled by Margaret G. Pierce. The latter is especially full and well selected, being a reprint, with additions, of the list published in the December number of the "Cumulative index."

DREXEL INSTITUTE (*Phila.*) L. Reference list no. 3, December, 1896. Decoration and design. 38 p. O.

A well-arranged classed list; most of the books listed are annotated.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGING. In the *Electrician* (London) of Oct. 30, 1896, M. Walton Brown urges the importance of an international catalog of applied-science literature. He suggests a conference of technical societies to consider the question.

LIVINGSTON, Luther S., *comp.* American book-prices current: a record of books, manuscripts, and autographs sold at auction in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati, from Sept. 1, 1895, to Sept. 1, 1896, with the prices realized. [vol. 2.] New York, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1896.

7411 items are included in this second volume, which is an improvement in arrangement over the first. The book is of great usefulness to all who buy second-hand books.

The MERCANTILE L. OF PHILADELPHIA, in its *Bulletin* for Oct., 1896, lists the accessions from July to October and contains a two-page list of "Reading notes on King Arthur and the Arthurian legends," by John Edmands, and a short list of books for sale by the library.

MILWAUKEE (*Wis.*) P. L. Finding list of the circulating department; compiled by Agnes Van Valkenburgh. May, 1896. 390 p. l. O.

Contains all books in the circulating department to May 1, 1896. A title-a-line author list, abbreviated to the utmost simplicity. Entries are made under real names, with references from pseudonyms. A compact and easily-handled list.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for December contains reference list no. 16 on Christmas; list no. 15, in the November issue, is on Municipal government.

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkes-Barre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* for December contains a short Christmas reading list, and the first of a series of "Historical and descriptive reading lists," covering English history. The November number contained an interesting reading list on Normandy and Brittany.

The PATERSON (*N. J.*) F. P. L. issued in November the first number of a monthly bulletin, to be sold at one cent a copy, which in paper, printing, and make-up is one of the most attractive library bulletins issued. The first number is a small square 54 p. pamphlet, with a view of the Boston Public Library as frontispiece; several pages are given to miscellaneous library notes, and the list of new books is followed by a special list of books on money, bimetallism, banking, etc.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for Dec., 1896, contains an extremely interesting reference list (no. 38) on William Morris; reference list 39, on "Proportional representation and analogous measures"; and a useful list of the reference lists issued during 1895 and 1896. It has also three "special catalogues": 7, Vacancies in sets of serials; 8, Providence Athenæum additions in 1895; and 9, Brown University Library additions in 1896.

The ST. LOUIS (*Mo.*) F. P. L. Monthly *Bulletin* for December continues its "Catalog of English prose fiction" from W to Y.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for November contains reading lists on the Rossettis and on William Morris.

SCRANTON (*Pa.*) P. L. Bulletin no. 6: Additions from July to December, 1896.

SEATTLE (*Wash.*) P. L. *Bulletin*, vol. 1, no. 1, Nov. 1896. 4 p.

It is pleasant to note that Seattle has come into the ranks of the libraries that bring their contents and their work regularly before the public, and we trust this modest bulletin will prove a successful venture. Beginning in this first (November) number and continuing monthly it is planned to publish a classed supplement to the last printed catalog, covering books added up to Nov. 1, 1896. The first instalment covers Fiction, from A. to E.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has special reading lists on the Brownings, and on Fairy-tales, mythology, and folklore; the number for December had lists on New England and Joan of Arc, and in the November issue the lists related to "Municipal government" and "Our country."

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) CITY L. A. *Bulletin* for December contains a short selected list of "Christmas reading."

SWANSEA (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Catalogue. Fall River, 1896. 32 p. O.

Classified on the Cutter expansive system. Made very clear and easy to use by a liberal allowance of headings. History and Geography are fully divided; the other classes hardly at all, yet sufficiently. The library is a very small one, open only on Saturday afternoons and evenings, two hours each.

*CHANGED TITLES.*

"NEW JERSEY: from the discovery of Scheyichbi to recent times," by Frank R. Stockton, is published by D. Appleton & Co., 1896. (Stories from American History.) "Stories of New Jersey," by Frank R. Stockton, is published by the American Book Co., 1896. Except in their title-pages the text in these two books is precisely the same, printed from the same plates. There may be some good reason for misleading the bookbuying public in this way into buying two copies of the same work, but in this case, at least one admirer of Stockton has lost much of his respect for him as a man in his permitting such an imposition on the public. S: H. R.

*FULL NAMES.*

Taylor, Joseph Richard, *translator of* "Captives of Plautus," Boston, 1896.

Fiske, Thomas Scott, *author of* Chapter 6 in Merriam and Woodford's "Higher mathematics," New York, 1896.

Woodward, Robert Simpson, *author of* Chapter 10 in same book. W: J. J.

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Ballmann, J: W: (The presidential campaign);

Cochrane, Clark Betton (Songs from the granite hills of New Hampshire);

Dalton, Joseph Grinnell (The spherical basis of astrology);

Fairchild, Edwin Milton (The function of the church);

Ferguson, L: Aloysius (Electrical engineering in modern central stations);

Forbush, E: Howe, *and* Fernald, C: H: (The gypsy moth);

Gerdtzen, Gerdt Adolph (The problem of economical heat, light, and power supply for building blocks, school-houses, dwellings, etc.);

Hamlin, Alfred Dwight Foster (A text-book of the history of architecture);

Hay, Oliver Perry (On some collections of fishes);

Herron, G: Davis (The call of the cross);

Holmes, G: Kirby, *and* Lord, J: Smith (Report on farms and homes, *etc.*);

Law, James Duff (Dreams o' home, and other poems);

Lewis, J: B:, *and* Bombaugh, C: Carroll (Stratagems and conspiracies to defraud life insurance companies);

Loase, J: F: (The phonetic structure of the English language as it is in actual speech);

McMahon, Joseph H: (A list of the most important Catholic works of the world);

Niswander, Frank Josiah (Ground squirrels);

Norris, W: Fisher, *and* Oliver, C: A: (Textbook of ophthalmology);

O'Donnell, James H: (Liturgy for the laity);

Silberstein, Solomon Joseph (The disclosures of the universal mysteries);

Smith, H: Harrison (All the republican national conventions, *etc.*);

Teggart, F: J: (Catalogue of the Hopkins railway library).

## Bibliography.

BROWNING, Robert. In the *Athenæum* of Nov. 28, T: J. Wise continues the bibliography of the writings of Browning. This instalment is devoted to "Collected editions and selections."

CYANIDE PROCESS. References to recent literature on the subject, comp. by A. D. Nordhoff. (In *Mining and Scientific Press*, v. 73, p. 441, Nov. 28, 1896.)

DEBATES. Brookings, W. Du Bois, *and* Ringwalt, Ralph Curtis, (*eds.*) Briefs for debate on current political, economic, and social topics. With an introduction by Albert Bushnell Hart. New York, Longmans, Green & Co., 1896. D. $1.25.

75 briefs are presented, together with the best references on each side of the question. There is also a short bibliography of debating.

FINE ART. A bibliography of fine arts, to comprise nearly 1000 annotated titles, will be published early in February by the Library Bureau, Boston. Russell Sturgis, president of the Fine Art Federation of New York, contributes a selection from the literature of the graphic and plastic arts. Henry E. Krehbiel, musical editor of the New York *Tribune*, furnishes the department of music. Both contributors are among the foremost critics in the metropolis in their respective fields. In their

forthcoming bibliography they place at the service of booksellers, librarians, readers, and students the results of a life-long study of fine art and its literature.

LAKES ERIE, HURON, AND MICHIGAN. The Wisconsin State Historical Society is to publish in its next report the bibliography of Lakes Erie, Huron, and Michigan, which was prepared by Miss Margaret Mann on the completion of the two years' course in the Armour Institute library class.

MILITARY SCIENCE. Sources of information on military professional subjects: a classification list of books and publications. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1896. 4°, 109 p. (War Dept.,) Adjutant-General's Office. [Publication] No. 10.

MONTENEGRO. Tenneroni, Annibale. Per la bibliografia del Montenegro. (*In La Vita Italiana*, Oct. 25, 1896, p. 457–462.)

MUSIC. Matthew, Ja. E. The literature of music. New York, A. C. Armstrong & Son, n.d. (The book-lover's library.) 10 + 281 p. 16°. $1.25.

In his preface the author states the object of this book to be "to assist the inquirer in his search for the most useful works in the principal departments of musical literature, and at the same time to give some account of such books as are of interest, either for their curiosity, for their scarceness, or for the important influence they may have exercised in a past age." The opening chapter discusses the literature of ancient music; the closing one the bibliography of music. The first bibliography of music known to the author was begun in 1762 and completed in 1767. Since then the "books which are no books," relating to music, have grown to considerable numbers. Other chapters discuss dictionaries of music, the literature of sacred music, of the opera, of musical instruments, etc.

NULLIFICATION. Houston, David Franklin. A critical study of nullification in South Carolina. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1896. (Harvard hist. studies, v. 3.) Net, $1.25.

There is a five-page bibliography of nullification.

PAPAL ABSOLUTISM. Vincent, Marvin R. The age of Hildebrand. New York, The Christian Literature Co., 1896. 12°, $1.50.

Contains eight pages of bibliography.

SLAVE TRADE. Du Bois, W. E. Burghardt. The suppression of the African slave trade to the United States of America, 1638–1870. New York, Longmans, Green & Co., 1896. (Harvard hist. studies, vol. 1.) Net, $1.50.

Pages 299–325 contain a bibliography of the subject.

TAILORING. Select documents illustrating the history of trade unionism: I., The tailoring trade; ed. with an introd. by F. W. Galton. London, Longmans, Green & Co., 1896. $1.50.

Pages 224–237 are given to a bibliography of the subject. The reference numbers are added for the works that may be found in the library of the British Museum.

WOMEN. Vol. 1 of the recently issued report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education for 1894–95 contains a 6-p. bibliography of "selected books and articles on woman's development."

*INDEXES.*

The "CUMULATIVE INDEX" for December contains an excellent reading list on Christmas, compiled by Margaret G. Pierce and covering six pages. In this number the plan for the new year is briefly outlined. During 1897 the number of magazines indexed will be increased to 100, of which 75 will be included from month to month, the remaining 25 to be indexed once for the whole year in the December or final number; specially timely articles will, however, be included in the monthly issues. The bibliographies on current topics, prepared for the Cleveland Public Library, will also be published from time to time in the index, and upon application subscribers will be furnished with reference lists on any subject not published, postage only being charged. For 1897 the subscription price is $5, to be paid at any time before the issue of the July number.

CORRECTION. Poole, 1882 ed. "Pressensé, Edmond de," comes before "Present" on p. 1047. Should follow "Press" on p. 1049. Poole, 1st Suppl., 1882–87, p. 98. Entry "Confucianism, etc." *New Eng.* read v. 45 for 46. — A. E. WHITAKER.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

"Socio-economic mythes and mythe-makers, by Yours truly," is by Dr. H. Augusta Kimball.
N. E. B.

Can any one tell who "Miölnir" (Naut-eos) is, author of "Poems." Aberystwith, 1860. 60 p.? — A. E. WHITAKER.

"The three homes," by F: W: Farrar, published by E. P. Dutton & Co., 1896, was originally published in 1873 under the pseudonym "F. T. L. Hope," which Dean Farrar now says stood in his mind for the words "Faintly trust the larger hope." — *Pub. Weekly*, Dec. 19, '96.

PSEUDONYMOUS ENTRIES. — A correspondent writes: "It has been reported that the 'Duchess' (Mrs. Hungerford) has sold her pseudonym, and that the books now being issued by the 'Duchess' are really written by another person than Mrs. Hungerford. If this is so, are not those libraries entering books under the real name rather than under the pseudonym giving false information? This is simply a straw in favor of using the pseudonym when the author persists in using one."

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BARONIUS. *Annales ecclesiastici.* 37 v. in.-4, rel. 1864-84. 330 fr.
*Bibl. de l'Ecole des Chartes.* Coll. bien compl., 1839-95. 55 v. 650 fr.
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BORGHESI, *Œuvres.* 9 t. en 10 vol. Paris, Imp. Nat. 180 fr.
*Bulletin du Bibliophile* (Techener). 1834-95. 55 vol. 200 fr.
*Bulletin monumental* (Caumont). 1835-79, av. tabl. 47 v. 300 fr.
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VIVANT-DENON. *L'Œuvre originale.* Av. le suppl. érot. 315 eaux-fortes folio, 1873. 90 fr.
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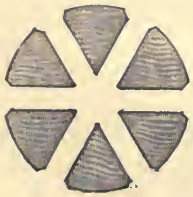

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. FEBRUARY, 1897. No. 2

THE American Library Association has had its first special meeting, which, although it directly accomplished nothing, will not be without influence in the future moulding of the association. It did not seem advisable under the circumstances of the present Congress to attempt the reincorporation proposed, which should make the American Library Association a national organization, recognized by the nation through act of Congress on the same plan with the American Historical Association. This is probably a desirable end, but it was the general opinion that the time was not yet ripe for this act, and that any action toward this end should be taken in full conference. While it should be to the interests of library development — and that means to the interest of all the people — that there should be a central library authority, nationally recognized, which might be called upon to furnish members of a board of visitors for the national and other governmental libraries and to report annually, or from time to time, upon library economy and library progress, the present time and circumstances did not seem auspicious for such reorganization, and the American Library Association could certainly not afford to put itself in the position of seeking aggrandizement for itself by a crusade in its own behalf. The special meeting was unanimous in this judgment. Under the constitution it was not possible to discuss other questions than that put forward in the call for the meeting, so that the proposal to appropriate $500 for the use of the secretary in missionary effort, although it met with wide approval as well as with some criticism, could not be acted upon. The fact that President Brett, Secretary Hayes, Recorder Jones, and others serving the association, came to New York from distant cities at considerable expense in money as well as at the outlay of much time and inconvenience, emphasizes, however, the desirability of appropriation by the Association for the travelling and other expenses of those who serve it without remuneration.

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NOT second in interest to this meeting of the A. L. A. itself was the union meeting of the New England associations by the invitation of the Connecticut Library Association at Hartford in the same week. The meeting was a large one, despite unfavorable weather, bringing together 150 people interested in library advancement. It is evident that nothing, not even New England weather, as celebrated by Hartford's humorist, can daunt the enthusiasm of the library spirit; indeed, there is nothing more striking than the largeness and enthusiasm of any gathering of librarians. It was peculiarly gratifying at this meeting to have the report of co-operative methods among librarians in Hartford, which sets an especially valuable example to other cities in this respect, as well as in Providence, and the real significance of the meeting lay in the emphasis of this idea of co-operation for the benefit of readers and students among the libraries of a great city.

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LIBRARIANS should not forget that there is pending before Congress a bill to extend and practically complete the reorganization of the system of government publications. Mr. Crandall's bill, dealing with the methods of publication of government issues, in the more technical sense of publication, is likely to be overlooked in the closing days of the session, unless members of Congress are reminded of its importance. Librarians should, therefore, write to their senators, urging the passage of the bill "to improve the printing and binding methods of the public documents," and should also urge early action in the matter on the senate committee on printing—Senators Hale Hansbrough, and Gorman. This bill, though emanating from Mr. Crandall's office, is the joint result of the plans of Dr. Ames as well as of Mr. Crandall, and has the hearty support of all intelligently interested in government documents. The bill authorizing Dr. Ames to continue backward his "Comprehensive index" has passed the House and is pending in the Senate, but the general sentiment of the library profession regarding this bill is undoubtedly that expressed in the January JOURNAL. It is to be hoped that the provision for separating the copyright office from the Library of Congress will become a law, as one satisfactory feature of the general bill on the Library of Congress, however unsatisfactory may be the other features of this bill.

THE question of indexes, raised elsewhere by Mr. Tandy, is one of special interest and importance to librarians, and the suggestions put forward by him for organized library effort toward better and more plentiful indexes are well worthy of support and discussion. Among the minor woes of librarians indexless books are ever present, and there is no class of workers to whom thorough and systematic indexes are more useful. Of late years publishers have come to recognize more fully the added value of a well-indexed volume, but there is still wide room for improvement in this direction. Only too often books are published, the usefulness of which would be practically doubled by a good index. Prof. Bandelier's important work, "The gilded man," was one of the most striking examples of the sort, and a very recent instance is found in the collection of "Myths and legends of our own land," by Charles M. Skinner—a mass of material that an adequate index would have rendered at least twice as useful. If all books of information were supplied with indexes and all index-makers were responsible over their own signatures for the merit of their work, the path to specific information on a subject would be a more direct and a less thorny one. A noteworthy step in this direction has been made by Dr. Eggleston in the initial volume of his important series in American history, "The beginners of a nation," wherein credit is given to the maker of the index as himself an author; but such examples of index appreciation, if it may be so termed, are rare indeed. Capital service in the cause of adequate indexes is done in the *Dial*, where Mr. Thwaites in his reviews of current historical literature gives special critical emphasis to their importance, and the *Nation* is always a consistent champion of indexes. If these examples were followed by the majority of reviewers it would not be long before publishers generally realized that a good index is the necessary corollary of a good book. And there is no reason to doubt that a similar result might be effected through a well-organized and persistent "library movement" toward the same end, such as Mr. Tandy urges. At any rate, it is well worth trying.

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NEW ORLEANS gives the first contribution to the library-founding record of 1897. In the Fisk Free and Public Library, formally inaugurated last month, that city establishes its first free circulating library, and establishes it in such a manner as to insure systematic growth and wide usefulness. The process of evolution whereby subscription or endowed libraries at last find their true place as free public libraries has more than once been referred to in these columns. This principle finds, in a measure, fresh illustration in New Orleans, where three separate collections, each useful but limited in its scope, have been merged into one effective organization, supported by the people for themselves. Perhaps the most gratifying feature of the change was the rapidity with which it was accomplished and the hearty co-operation that the project received from its very inception. Nothing could indicate more clearly the sure and steady growth of public appreciation of the part a public library should play in the life of a city, and in the Fisk Free and Public Library it is not difficult to see an entering wedge of free library development in the South. Nor are these signs of the times confined to New Orleans. In Galveston the Rosenberg bequest promises to soon take substantial form as a free public library, while in Georgia the proposed library commission bill has good prospect of passage by the coming legislature. A southern conference of the American Library Association should be directly effective in furthering the good work, and the suggestion made at Cleveland and elsewhere that the conference of 1898 be held in Atlanta should have serious consideration at the Philadelphia meeting.

## Communications.

*CIVIL SERVICE METHODS IN LIBRARIES.—A CORRECTION.*

IN the LIBRARY JOURNAL for January I find myself reported as testifying before the Committee of Congress on the Library that I did not favor the application of civil service methods to the employment of assistants in that library. That is a mistake. I am a civil service reformer and intended to be understood unequivocally to favor the extension of civil service principles to the national library.

W. I. FLETCHER.

AMHERST COLLEGE LIBRARY,
AMHERST, MASS.

*BOOKS FOR DISTRIBUTION.—NOTICE TO LIBRARIANS.*

DR. CHARLES C. P. CLARK, author of "The commonwealth reconstructed," New York, 1878, 216 pages, octavo, has placed the remainder of the edition in our hands for distribution. A copy of it will be sent to any library on receipt of 12 cents ($.12) to cover cost of mailing.

GEO. H. BAKER.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY,
NEW YORK CITY.

## WHAT MAY A LIBRARIAN DO TO INFLUENCE THE READING OF A COMMUNITY?

By A. L. Peck, *Librarian Gloversville (N. Y.) Free Library.*

Having had opportunity to observe, with some care and certainly with keen interest, the expectations which communities have as soon as it is reported that a library is to be founded, I have made an effort to watch how far these expectations are realized, how far they are disappointed, and in what respect the results possibly exceed every expectation. In a great many cases these expectations become so fixed that they have been changed into demands upon the library, as soon as the library is established.

I still recall, with some quiet delight, that on the day after a certain gentleman had promised to found a library, some anxious readers immediately inquired when the books would be ready for delivery, and the feverish haste with which the public at large expected to use these books would have led one to believe that as soon as the library was open the demands for books would be so great that a reasonable supply would be impossible. People in the street would say that the library would close the saloons; others would say, like Franklin, "It will improve manners." Older men who never expected to use the library themselves anticipated great benefit for their sons and grandsons. Generally it was maintained that the library would improve the intellectual taste of the public and change entirely the character of reading of the community. When the books arrived young and old hastened to the library to help the librarian in unpacking the cases, and were offended when such assistance was promptly and seriously refused. When the doors of the library were almost hermetically sealed, in order to give the librarian and his assistants an opportunity to catalog the books, it aroused public anger to such an extent that the people inquired whether the librarian meant to read the books before they were permitted to handle them. And so it went on through four weary months, during which time between 3000 and 4000 books were prepared for library use. When finally the books were ready for delivery the former eager readers drew 57 books on the first day. And so the true function of the library began; first, to find readers; second, to make the library agreeable and pleasant to these; third, to keep readers in the habit of coming; fourth, to make the library useful to all; and fifth, to make an effort to improve the general character of reading. And after many years of hard and persevering work, on the part both of the trustees and the librarian, the library has increased in usefulness, and, it may be said, meets some of the expectations which its friends had anticipated before it was properly organized and opened to the public.

It is, however, not the object of this paper to discuss fully in what regard the public library meets the expectations of the community that maintains it. An attempt at this would simply lead to the compilation of a library manual and not to a condensed statement of what a library may do regarding the improvement of the literary taste, not only of its particular readers, or of any class thereof, but of the community in general.

While no one will question that the development of a taste for good literature is one of the functions of the public library, it would be wise not to speak of this function too loudly, as the individual readers as well as the community might take offence at any such attempt. And still it cannot be denied that the public library does improve the healthy tone of reading in the community at large. Whether this can be done successfully must in each case depend upon local circumstances, upon the tact and personal exertion of those in charge of the library.

Efforts toward the improvement in the quality of reading may be grouped under the following heads: first, efforts for the individual reader; second, for classes of readers; thirdly, for the community at large, also naturally including those who never come to the library.

First, then, as to individual readers: In order to be able to influence the individual reader it is necessary that those who wish to exert this influence shall first gain the confidence of those they wish to guide. This guidance must be free from prejudice and cant, and must spring apparently from no other source than a personal interest in the individual patron of the library. We can gain the confidence of children most readily, most surely, by bringing them in contact with such books as are known

to us to interest children. The less there is said about these matters to the child himself the better. Here is Johnnie, who reads nothing but Alger books, and you are anxious for his own sake that he should read something better. While you may be compelled to give him his Alger book, because he claims that he has a right to get what he wants, still show him one or two, or a few books which you consider better. If you do not succeed at first, do not give up the case as hopeless, but patiently give him your attention, try to lure him away from his idols. Ask yourself, "What does he like in the Alger books?" The answer is simply that he likes to read about real boys and their success. It is success and wealth that attract him, and he dreams that his career may be similar. The Trowbridge, the Kellogg, and the Kaler books will be readily accepted as substitutes. If he wants stories of school-boys, you may not at first succeed in getting him to read "Tom Brown," but give him some other books about schools and school-boys. If he is in search of adventures, give him Ballantyne and some of the earlier Reid books, the Henty books, or give him Du Chaillu. I could always interest boys in "Lost in the jungle."

If your friend be one of the girls who seem to be wedded to "Elsie"—which, by the way, is a very serious case—make an effort to induce her to read the "Little women" series, some of the books of Joanna Matthews, the "Katy" books by Susan Coolidge, the "Witch Winnie" and the "Hildegarde" books, and others.

The main thing is that neither should know you have intentions to change his or her reading-matter, and the next thing that he or she should become acquainted with other books. The change must come from the young people and not from the library official. As soon as they think that the library official wishes to make a change they suspect that it is done from selfish motives. I have heard it often said that these things are done for the effect in the annual report, and others would say that this is "what they are paid for." It is also my sincere belief that in small libraries the librarian himself should take the greatest interest in his juvenile borrowers, and, as much as possible, give them his own personal attention. In the large libraries, naturally, means will be provided to engage a suitable person for such work. We all know that this has been done already, and I need only to mention the excellent work which Miss Stearns is doing for the children in Milwaukee.

The effort to guide the reading of grown-up persons requires still greater care and tact. Here, in fact, nothing but direct interest in the borrower will lead to success. If you can tell Mr. A that you have a book in the library which you know that he would like, and if his expectations of the book are realized, he will always remember it gratefully, and the first step toward gaining his confidence will have been made.

If there are a large number of workingmen among the users of the library, you will gain their confidence by placing in their hands such books as will naturally interest and benefit them in their trade. In such a manner a mutual personal relation between library and reader is established, and it will be found that such relations will be lasting and fruitful in their results.

Even the inveterate novel-reader must be treated with due consideration, and he or she will gratefully accept the better novel for the good—only be sure that it is really a better novel, that is to say, more suitable for the person who is to read it.

I presume all these efforts for advancing and improving the character of reading by personal attention are more feasible in a small library than in a very large one. But each library willing to fill its mission will find some persons who can be guided and influenced.

Efforts to influence a large number of readers to better appreciation and use of the library will first consist in the co-operation of library and school. There has been a great deal written and said about this, and bibliothecal literature suggests various ways in which libraries have made themselves useful to the public schools. A word, however, may be allowed in this connection about the library influencing teachers. While it would be unwise for the librarian or his assistants to try to direct the teachers' general reading, the teacher does not and cannot know the resources of the library in advancing his interests as a teacher in his individual school. Here personal acquaintance with the teacher is the only remedy. The catalogs and lists may be ever so well arranged, and cross-references and notes may be scholarly and explicit; still the majority of teachers will be at loss what to ask for, where to find just exactly what

they want. Even if admitted to the shelves, the large number of books will bewilder them, and the natural limit of time will prevent a very careful selection. And only direct personal influence, with a knowledge of the school curriculum on the one hand and a knowledge of the resources of the educational department of the library on the other, will bring the right book in the right hands at the right time.

If you cannot influence the teachers in your school, make yourself acquainted with the superintendent and principal. Find out what they expect of their teachers and of the school, and the influence of the superintendent and principal will be with you in each case, and in a short time you will find that the teachers will use the library systematically and to mutual benefit of all parties concerned, namely, teacher, school, and library.

To improve the general character of reading of larger groups of readers, the librarian must take an active interest in all societies that are formed for mutual improvement by study and research. I recall when the library which I have the honor to represent contained only a few thousand volumes (it is not very large now) that it was very difficult to aid and direct study classes, reading circles, and debating clubs in their work, and after careful investigation I came to the conclusion that the only way in which a small library can make itself felt in these societies and be of use to them is by influencing the topic or program committee to compile their programs at the library, and thus instead of asking afterward for what the library has not, make use of the books which the library has, no matter how few.

The next step in the directing to good literature is the effort of the library to furnish information on such topics as are of current interest. If America is interested in Venezuela let the library make it known through the local papers and through special lists that it has books on this subject. If Cuba is the topic of the day, let the same thing be done for Cuba. If currency is the all-absorbing subject, have all pamphlets and magazine articles at your disposal that will give information on both sides of the question, and you will find that without any further efforts the public at large will make use of the library in other ways than for recreation only.

A word might be said regarding the recreative reading furnished by the library. It is an acknowledged fact that a large proportion of the books issued by public libraries is popular fiction. This is only proper, and here the library may exert a healthful influence by guiding unconsciously the readers to the very best kind of fiction, simply by constantly bringing the very best novels before them for selection. I believe it is far better, instead of admitting the so-called "novel fiend" to the shelves, where he or she will only be embarrassed by the large number, to keep near to the delivery-desk a number of carefully-selected novels and hand these to any reader who is willing to select from books. In this manner, without giving offence, the character of the reading of this class of readers will gradually be improved.

The compilation, and if possible, the publication, either through the daily press or otherwise, of lists of good books, be they new or old, will bring before the eye, not only of the user of the library but the public at large, the best books in the various departments of literature that the library contains.

But what can the library do for those hundreds of readers who never come near it, and are, as it were, beyond its influence? There is one thing certain, that a large majority of those who do not use the library are buying literature of some kind or another. Curious to observe this, I once spent a Saturday evening in one of the local book-stores in order to see what is bought and who buys reading-matter. This reading-matter varied from the *Police News* up to the fashion paper, from the Beadle novel through all the grades of paper-covered novels up to George Eliot's "Romola." And here the problem presented itself to me: What can we do to reach these readers?

Soon after I called upon the book-dealers of the place, and offered them the use of our trade literature, and in this manner making the library useful to the local book trade, I called their attention to the fact that if they were willing to co-operate with the library they certainly could improve the character of reading; first, by bringing before their customers the best class of periodicals only, and by calling their attention to the best and newest books. Whenever a good book is published, and I anticipate the demand for it to become quite large, I inform the local dealers of such works, and in this manner those that do not use the library virtually come within its influence. Last year a prominent merchant selected at the library his Christmas stock of literature for his department store.

As far as it came under my observation, I am led to believe that since the establishment of the library in our place the public at large have purchased more and better books than they ever did before. I know that there have been placed in our city outside of the library five complete sets of Duruy's histories of Rome and Greece, de luxe edition; over 200 sets of cyclopædias; excellent editions of Ruskin, Hugo, Dumas, Scott; also de luxe editions of the Riverside classics, and a large number of valuable illustrated books on art and books of reference; which purchases would never have been made had it not been for the quiet elevating influence of the library.

While I have no means of ascertaining how far similar work can be done by libraries in large cities, I recall that Mr. Hild, of the Chicago Public Library, has made similar statements of the work and influence of his excellent library.

There is one thing certain, that the librarian and his staff are responsible for the success or failure of this influence. If the librarian will sit still in his chair and allow the public simply to help themselves, but very little of this work will be done. But with a librarian willing to do his duty, and with faithful assistants, wide awake to their possibilities, and sympathizing with the reader and with the interests of the community, a great deal can be accomplished.

In conclusion, but one more remark, and that is, no matter how well, no matter how faithfully the work may be done, there always remains more to be done. Let us hope that to-morrow will be better than to-day, and the future brighter than the past.

## THE LIBRARIAN AND THE PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES.

By Angeline Scott, *Public Library, South Norwalk, Ct.*

Among the many questions brought for solution to the public library, there is one class of inquiries on which the librarian is prone — and fairly — to look askance.

The real student who uses books with a workman's knowledge of his tools, or the ignorant but eager seeker of information who has to be guided along the highways and byways of research, never fail of a cordial welcome; but the prize-question people who wish to find out "Which president's mother has a famous living namesake?" or "Which president's father was a sexton?" and the man who has just begun to take an interest in his grandfathers, are not as welcome visitors to the library. The expert genealogist is the keenest witted of men in unearthing what he wants; but an awful record of valuable time misused is written against the people who persist in first recounting what they know about their forebears and then extracting unwilling labor from a busy librarian in order to glean scanty information about some ancestor unknown to fame. Undoubtedly the historical activities of such a person may be traced to one of the patriotic societies which make Colonial or Revolutionary or 1812 ancestry a condition of membership; and, if the information we procure for this inquirer simply makes him think more highly of himself than he ought to think, and serves no educational purpose, we may well shift the burden of such work on other shoulders.

But there is another side to the question. Quoting from the historical sketch of one such society, concerning its object: "A spirit of reverence for American traditions seized many minds within the last few years, which became embodied in the organizations of the descendants of American patriots; with the object of saving such precious relics, traditions, records, and associations with particular places as might be preserved." Here is where the public library and the patriotic society meet on common ground. The merely personal interest unlocks an unused door into the past and often discloses a surprising amount of local history in miniature. Sometimes a man who has utterly lacked public spirit comes to be very proud of his birthplace when he studies the old records and neglected histories for some personal reason; and out of this newly-kindled respect, is led to make the town some memorial gift; perhaps a library building, a collection of Americana, an historical museum. The schoolboy is stimulated by what he learns in competing for the prize essay written for the Sons of the American Revolution, to begin reading history with a more vivid sense of its reality. The thought of Indians here in Connecticut and the traces left of them prove to him as interesting as the modern Indian of the

plains; so that, beginning at home, his interest extends to the general condition of the country at a given period and the relation of that period to the history of the nation.

It seems as if the patriotic societies should be valuable allies in strengthening the public library in the department of local history.

The importance of this department is emphasized by Justin Winsor, R. G. Thwaites, and W. R. Cutter, whose personal experiences have entitled them to speak of the value of local collections of manuscripts, documents, deeds, correspondence, and ephemeral pamphlets. Mr. Cutter exhorts the librarian to collect exhaustively and to save tenaciously every book, pamphlet, map, or scrap of printed matter relating to the town. Mr. Thwaites has the daily and weekly papers scanned at odd minutes for historical material by the attendant at the book-counter of the Wisconsin State Historical Library.

Another task commended to the attention of librarians is that of making a bibliography of local history, books written about the town or containing allusions to it, pamphlets with addresses, sermons, etc., not forgetting the press of the town. In Woburn, Mass., a very valuable collection of original matter has been gathered, including lists of Revolutionary soldiers and old deeds which have been of much service in tracing the descent of property. A former town clerk, a postmaster, and a physician accumulated the mass of material, which Mr. W. R. Cutter has indexed and made available for reference.*

All of these expedients for collecting local history require a good deal of watchful labor, and the enthusiasm of the hobbyist would be invaluable in discovering the hiding-places of the old papers and relics and in cataloging them. Somebody must tactfully induce people to give such material to the library, and how can the librarian undertake so much extra work unaided?

Here comes in the utility of the patriotic society to the library. Many of the societies do not have libraries belonging to their organizations, and the interested members might do nearly all of the work of collecting and classifying the material if the librarian would provide for its preservation and suggest the working methods. In one instance the Daughters of the American Revolution aimed to have, some day, an historical library, and began the accumulation of books on local and state history. They placed their bookcase in the public library, where the books may be used for reference until the society is able to support a chapter library. Where there is an assembly-room connected with the library, the societies might repeat, for the general public, interesting programs which had been prepared for the chapter meetings. It would also be possible to arrange loan exhibits of colonial pottery, silver, furniture, and the like, if the library has an available room for the purpose. Articles exhibited should be labelled in such a way as to lead those interested to the books in the library, which would give more information about them.

The chief difficulty reported from a large number of librarians who have made an effort along these lines, is the apathy of the public which might supply the material wanted for local history. The alert librarian needs no urging to undertake the development of this department of library work, if he is encouraged by gifts which need to be cared for.

At some time when the library has been useful to a local patriotic society in providing genealogical and historical data, while the members of it are holding the service in grateful remembrance, let the librarian show the society how much good historical work it may do for the library.

Excepting books (and not always excepting them) the material should be given the library so that the ordinary funds may not be diverted from the purchase of books in general and constant demand. This is the implied criticism of the "Plea for local history" in the proposed "Library primer"; while it commends in a rather half-hearted way, it must be confessed, the bringing of societies organized for the purpose of collecting historical material into co-operative relations with the library. Mr. Thwaites has entered a vigorous protest against slighting local history by inference in the "Primer," which was published in *Public Libraries*, June, 1896; and in closing he insists that the librarian of a community is best equipped for this task. In the one department of the history and bibliography of its own locality it is possible for the smallest country library to excel the great metropolitan library — all of which only places the responsibility of accomplishing the work on the librarian; and if he can enlist the assistance of whatever historical and patriotic societies exist in his town, so much the better.

* In the LIBRARY JOURNAL of May, 1896, Mr. Cutter describes a method he has devised for a genealogical index in the form of a card catalog.

## THE GATHERING OF LOCAL HISTORY MATERIALS BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

At the Ashland meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association. held Nov. 13, 1896, R. G. Thwaites, secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and one of the members of the state free library commission, spoke on "The gathering of local history materials by public libraries." His remarks were so practically useful in scope and subject, that a brief synopsis of the address is here given to a wider audience than that to which it was originally presented.

There is always a deep and general popular interest in old pamphlets, newspaper files, and the odds and ends of printed matter issued in ephemeral form, provided they are old enough to have ceased to be commonplace. That with which we are all familiar is commonplace, and generally held in slight value; but the commonplaces of one generation are the treasured relics of the next. It is not mere idle curiosity, this interest of ours in the things with which our fathers were familiar. Relics in museums enable us more accurately in imagination to re-dress the stage of history; but the literary ephemera of other days, preserved in libraries, are still more valuable as mirrors of the past. The chance advertisement in the old newspaper, the tattered playbill, the quaintly-phrased pamphlet, or musty diary or letter of a former time, mean more to the modern historian than any other form of historical record. In earlier days history was thought to be simply the doings of monarchs and the conduct of campaigns; but Macaulay and Green have shown us that the history of the people is what benefits us most — how John and Mary lived in their wayside cottage, how Peter and Paul bargained in the market-place, how the literati toiled in Grub street, and how seafarers journeyed over the face of the deep.

Recently Woodrow Wilson said, at the Princeton sesqui-centennial: "The world's memory must be kept alive, or we shall never see an end of its old mistakes. We are in danger to become infantile in every generation. This is the real menace under which we cower in this age of change." It is the office of the historian to keep the world's history alive. There will never be an end of the writing of history. Some one has truly said, each generation must write all past history afresh, from its own changing standpoint. But that this may continue, and with increasing advantage, there must never be an end of accumulating historical material; each generation must accumulate its own, for the benefit of its successor.

In the libraries of the old world there are many magnificent collections of broadsides, leaflets, tracts, pamphlets, which earnest, thoughtful men have, in past generations, accumulated for our benefit. One of the most notable of these is the collection known as the Thomason Tracts, in the British Museum; 30,000 specimens of the literary flotsam and jetsam of the middle of the 17th century — pamphlets, circulars, prospectuses, broadsides, programs, and what not — each one carefully labelled by the industrious London bookseller, Thomason, with the date of its acquisition. Thus we have, for the entire period of the civil war in England, a faithful day-by-day picture of surpassing interest and value, to which historians are ever turning as to an inhaustible mine of material, and concerning which Macaulay and a host of others have recorded words of the warmest praise.

In olden times enterprises of this character were left to the chance of individual initiative. To-day they may be better, more systematically done by public librarians. It is not possible, nor is it advisable, for every public library to engage in a task of this character upon any extended scale. It is sufficient that a few great libraries undertake missions of this sort — libraries, perhaps, in widely-separated cities — but certain it is that each public library can and should make collections of this character for its own community, and the library at the county seat should seek to cover so far as may be its own county.

In specifying what the local library should make a serious business of collecting, Mr. Thwaites laid special stress upon newspaper files, the daily or weekly mirror of the community's life; and these files should, if possible, be complete back to the beginning. He urged that all manner of published reports be obtained — of the common council, the county board of supervisors, the various public institutions located in the community; the published memorial sermons, society year-books, printed rules and constitutions of local lodges, catalogs and programs of local colleges and academies, published addresses of every sort; any manner of literature published by the churches, whether in the form of papers, membership lists, appeals for aid, or what not; programs of local musicales, concerts, veteran camp-fires, etc., would be found in time to have great interest to the local historian. In fact, it is difficult to say what should not be collected, for all of this printed material will prove in due course of time to be a fund of information which shall make the library a Mecca for all who wish for any purpose to refresh their memory relative to the life of the town.

Just as we regard everything familiar as commonplace and worthless, do we delude ourselves with the notion that we and ours are to live always. Librarians should remember that this generation and its affairs are but passing phases of world-life; in due course what they have gathered of the literary driftwood of to-day will be of priceless value to their successors in office. All of us librarians are missionaries unto the present generation; but let us, in our zeal for present results, not forget to be as well missionaries unto the future, and thereby earn the praise which comes to him who plants a tree for the delectation of those who come after.

## BOOKS OF 1896. — I.

"THE best books of 1896 for a small library" were discussed and criticised at the meeting of the New York Library Association and the New York Library Club on Jan. 14. The session occupied the greater part of the afternoon, and was closely modelled on the A. L. A. catalog discussion at Cleveland. A provisional list of 489 of the leading books of 1896 had been prepared at the New York State Library, and copies were distributed to those present at the meeting. The various classes of literature were presented by different reviewers, who were, however, not limited in their choice to the printed list, to which additions were made by nearly every speaker. There was much less discussion than at the book discussion evening at Cleveland, but the session proved most interesting and suggestive. The development of these "book-talks" as a feature of library meetings within the past two years indicates that they possess a definite practical value to the librarian who must know what books to put in his library, and who has but little time in which to acquire that knowledge. It shows also that in addition to regarding the book from the outside, as an object to be classified, cataloged, labelled, and cared for, time can be well and profitably spared, in library meetings, to look upon it from within — as literature.

The following list gives the books in the divisions of Reference, Philosophy and ethics, Religion, Social science, Natural science and useful arts, and Fine art, as presented at the meeting, with brief comment by the reviewer. It will be followed in a succeeding issue by the books in the remaining classes.

### BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

Presented by W. T. Peoples, N. Y. Mercantile Library. A selection only of the titles listed by Mr. Peoples is given.

American book-prices current; comp. by L. S. Livingston. Dodd. *net*, $6.

The arrangement comprises 7500 lots (106 sales) and is in one alphabet by author.

American catalogue of books recorded July 1, 1890, to June 30, 1895. pts. 1–4. Pub. Weekly. $15.

Book-prices current. London, Stock. *net*, $7.70.

Bowerman, G: Franklin, *comp.* Selected bibliography of the religious denominations of the U. S.; to which is added a list of the most important Catholic works of the world, comp. by J. H. McMahon. Cathedral Lib. Assoc. 75 c.

Gives in systematic form references to the best books on the history, doctrine, and polity of Am. churches, with publishers and prices.

Verzeichnis der im deutschen Buchhandel neu erschienenen u. neu auferlegten Bücher, Landkarten, Zeitschriften, etc., July–December, 1895, and January–June, 1896.

[Catalogue of books, etc., published in Germany from July–Dec., 1895, and Jan.–June, 1896.] Leipzig, Hinrichs. 7.70 m.

A complete bibliography of German books for sale; each volume in two parts, 1st part an alphabetical list of authors, etc., 2d part subject index.

Cumulative index to selected list of periodicals. Cleveland Public Library. subs., $5.

30 periodicals were indexed in 1896; in 1897 it is proposed to index 100.

Dalbiac, P. H. Dictionary of quotations (English), with author and subject indexes. Macmillan. $2.

Dewey, Melvil, *ed.* Papers prepared for the World's Library Congress, held at the Columbian Exposition. (U. S. Bureau of Education reprint, whole no. 224.) Washington. n. p.

Griffin, A. P. C. Index of the literature of Am. local history in collections published in 1890–1895. Bost., Heintzman. $5.

Harper's dictionary of classical literature and antiquities; ed. by Harry Thurston Peck. Harper. $6.

The purpose of the book is to give the student, in a concise and intelligible form, the essential facts concerning those questions that oftenest arise in the study of the life, the literature, the religion, and the art of classical antiquity.

Journal of the Franklin Institute. Index to v. 121–140. Phila., Franklin Institute. $1.50.

Supplements the general index to the first 120 v., published in 1890.

Koopman, Harry Lyman. The mastery of books. Am. Book Co. 90 c.

Containing why and how much to read, what to read, how to read; reference-books and periodicals, etc., etc.

Lueger, Otto. Lexicon der gesammten technik und ihrer hilfswissenschaften. v. 1–3. Stuttgart, Deutsche Verlagsanstalt. 30 m. per v.

A technical dictionary on industry, technology, and all useful arts.

Peabody Institute Library. Second catalog, incl. additions made since 1882. pt. 1, A–B. Baltimore, Peabody Inst.

Pirrie, V., *comp.* A technical dictionary of sea-terms, phrases and words in the Eng. and French languages. Scribner. $2.

Quarterly Journal of economics. Index of writers and subjects, v. 1–10, 1886–96. Bost. Ellis. subs.

Sargent, Mary E. *and* Abby L. Supplement to "Reading for the young," by John F. Sargent. Library Bureau. $1.

Scott, Temple, *ed.* Book sales of 1895. Lond., Cockrane. *net*, £12.6.

Comprises 5695 lots of books sold in London; single lots arranged alphabetically.

Taylor, I. Names and their histories. Macmillan. $2.

An alphabetical arrangement as a handbook of historical geography and topographical nomenclature.

United States. Catalogue of the public documents of the 53d Congress and of all the departments of the government of the U. S. for the period from March 4, 1893–June 30, 1895; prepared under the supervision of the

Superintendent of Documents. Washington, Gov. Print. Office. n. p.

Wood, Katharine P., *comp.* Quotations for occasions. Century. $1.50.

Arranged and indexed under subjects; the book contains about 2500 quotations, covering all parts of a dinner *menu*, and special selections for men's dinners, dances, etc.

PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS.

Reviewed by E. C. Richardson, Princeton University.

Harris, G. Moral evolution. Houghton. $2.

Hirsch, W. Genius and degeneration. Appleton. $3.50.

Jordan, D: S. Care and culture of men. Whittaker. $1.50.

Sully, James. Studies of childhood. Appleton. $2.50.

These four books are first-class works by first-class authors, and are especially vouched for by Prof. Warren, of Princeton.

Bigelow, J: Mystery of sleep. Harper. $1.50.

Horton, R. F. On the art of living together. Dodd. 50 c.

Whitney, *Mrs.* A. D. T. Friendly letters to girl friends. Houghton. $1.25.

Undoubtedly good books for what they were intended. Mr. Bigelow's work has, perhaps, a little too much of the "mystery" part of its title; Dr. Horton's, while cleverly written, as usual, is, perhaps, no better than than some of his other works. These three books might be omitted from a library in order to admit three others which are more important than any previously noted. These are:

1. Weber, Alfr. History of philosophy; authorized tr. by F. Thilly. Scribner. *net*, $2.50.

Valuable for every library, large or small; for subject-matter, arrangement, style, and readableness it is the best outline history of philosophy that we have in English.

2. Titchener, E: B. Outline of psychology. Macmillan. *net*, $1.50.

Regarded as less readable than Weber, but the only really good up-to-date complete outline of the modern psychology, in which there has been so much change and progress of late. I find it exceedingly interesting as well.

3. Butler, Jos. Works; ed. by W: E. Gladstone. 2 v. Macmillan. *net*, $7.

For form, arrangement, annotation, and especially for luminous paragraph headings which are inserted, it is a model edition, and is bound to be the standard one for libraries.

RELIGION.

Reviewed by E. C. Richardson, Princeton University.

Abbott, Lyman. Christianity and social prob-problems. Houghton. $1.25.

Generally received as distinctly the best systematic attempt to show the direct bearing of Christ's life and teaching on social matters; scholarly, practicable, readable.

Abrahams, Israel. Jewish life in the Middle Ages. Macmillan. $1.75.

Packed with valuable information.

Coyle, J: P. The spirit in literature and life. Houghton. $1.50.

A stimulating book.

Davids, T. W. R. Buddhism, its history and literature. Putnam. $1.50.

Perhaps the best book on the science of religion during the year for use in general libraries; candid and careful.

Donald, E. W. Expansion of religion. Houghton. $1.50.

Lectures; forcible, readable, brusque in style to the point of abruptness; belongs to liberal school.

Froude, J. A. Lectures on the Council of Trent. Scribner. $2.

Necessary in every well-regulated library.

Moulton, R: G. Literary study of the Bible. Heath. $2.

—— *and others.* The Bible as literature. Crowell. $1.50.

Moulton in his various works on the Bible as literature is doing important work, almost too well known to mention; his books are useful, though perhaps it is not necessary for the small library to have all of them.

Schurman, J. G. Agnosticism and religion. Scribner. $1.

Interesting; unconservative.

Shields, C: W., *and others.* Church unity. Scribner. $1.

Five lectures by men of different denominations.

Van Dyke, H: J. Gospel for an age of doubt. Macmillan. $1.75.

Excellent from every point of view, and so excellent from a literary point of view as to make it doubly profitable.

Vincent, M. R. Age of Hildebrand. Christian Literature Co. $1.50.

An example of historial work made interesting by an interesting style.

Watson, J: Cure of souls. Dodd. $1.50.

—— Mind of the Master. Dodd. $1.50.

Both well written and practical; the former is exceedingly helpful, beyond most books of the sort, to theological students or ministers.

White, A. D. History of the warfare of science with theology in Christendom. 2 v. Appleton. $5.

Unacceptable to the most orthodox, but shows less anti-religious and even anti-theological bias than Dr. White has sometimes been credited with, and is a valuable contribution.

The whole list in theology is good, and to none of the books listed can exception be taken. If any must be omitted to make room for others the following might be spared:

Farrar, F. W., *and others.* The Bible and the child. Macmillan. $1.

Guerber, H. A. Legends of the Virgin and Christ. Dodd. $1.50.

Ramsay, W. M. St. Paul. Putnam. $3.

*Additions* to the list should include:

1. Fisher, G: P. History of Christian doctrine. Scribner. *net*, $2.50.

A complete, comprehensive, judicious survey of the whole field in small compass.

2. Argyll, *Duke* of. Philosophy of belief. Scribner. $5.

The crown of a series, and received by authorities as a very interesting book.

3. Byington, E. H. The Puritan in England and New England. Roberts. $2.
Of special interest for New England libraries.

Strong, T: B. Christian ethics. Longmans. $5.
Bampton lectures for 1895; somewhat heavy; learned and powerful.

Speer, Rob. E. Study of the man Christ Jesus. Revell. 75 c.

Harris, S: God the creator and lord of all. Scribner. *net*, $5.
Important and valuable, heavy in theme, interesting in treatment.

SOCIAL SCIENCE.

Reviewed by Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, Columbia University.

Bowmaker, E: Housing of the working classes. Scribner. $1.
Belongs to the *Social science series*, a series of unequal merit, in which some valuable books and some poor ones have appeared. The fact that a book belongs to this series does not guarantee its merit. This book is well spoken of, but I have not read it.

Bridgman, R. L. Biennial elections. Heath. 50 c.
A good exposition of a special subject, though not of general interest.

Commons, J: R. Proportional representation. Crowell. $1.75.
An excellent presentation of the subject.

Cowles, J. L: A general freight and passenger post. Putnam. 75 c.
A treatise too special in character to be generally needed by libraries.

Cunningham, W: Modern civilization in some of its economic aspects. Scribner. $1.
Good on superficial aspects of the subject.

Dickinson, G. L. Development of Parliament during the 19th century. Longman's. $2.50.
A useful book on a subject that is naturally of limited interest; necessary to a library.

Dixon, F. H. State railroad control, with a history of its development in Iowa. Crowell. $1.75.
Useful; but so special in its relation to a single state as to make it of less general value.

Ede, W. M. Attitude of the church to some of the social problems of town life. Macmillan. *net*, 70 c.
Relative in its point of view, the Hulsean lectures of 1895; fair.

Fairbanks, Arthur. Introduction to sociology. Scribner. $2.
In many respects a good book, but not completely worked out.

Ferri, Enrico. Criminal sociology. Appleton. $1.50.
The best book for the general reader who wants to know something of the Italian school of criminology; deals with the problem in a large way, and is better balanced than Lombroso's works on the subject.

Flint, Robert. Socialism. Lippincott. $3.25.
Superficial; should not be the only book on the subject in any library.

Follett, M. P. The speaker of the House of Representatives. Longmans. $1.75.
One of the best books of the year; a standard treatise on a subject that has not received special attention.

Godkin, E. L. Problems of modern democracy. Scribner. $2.
An admirable work.

Hadley, A. T. Economics. Putnam. $2.50.
Intended as a college text-book, and is used by teachers who have time to take classes through two books as the more advanced work. Gives the elementary principles of the subject, and discusses everything in close relation to the questions of the time. Contains a thorough study of speculation.

Hobson, J: A. Problem of the unemployed. Scribner. $1.
Thoroughly good; the best small book on the subject.

Howe, F: C. Taxation and taxes in the U. S. under the internal revenue system, 1791–1895. Crowell. $1.75.
One of the necessary books; deals with a subject not covered by others.

Keasbey, L. M. Nicaragua canal and the Monroe doctrine. Putnam. $3.50.
The result of long and patient study of our relations to Panama and Nicaragua; original in its treatment of economic and political questions.

Le Bon, Gustave. The crowd. Macmillan. $1.50.
A study of the psychology of crowds — the way in which men's emotions and actions are influenced by being massed; extended also to include a study of legislative and public assemblies along the same lines. The subject is new to the average reader, and this is the only book treating of it in English. It is interesting and suggestive. The chief criticism is that the author is largely indebted for his material to Prof. Tarde, his countryman, and has not made due acknowledgment of the fact.

Lecky, W: E. H. Democracy and liberty. Macmillan. 2 v., $5.
Interesting and useful; inadequate from the standpoint of democracy, but fair.

Lowell, A. L. Governments and parties in continental Europe. Houghton. 2 v., $5.
A great book; one of the occasional books. Should be in every library.

McKechnie, W: S. The state and the individual, Macmillan. $3.
Should not go into small libraries; superficial.

McPherson, L. G. The monetary and banking problem. Appleton. $1.
Well spoken of; not known to reviewer.

Nicholson, J. S. Strikes and social problems. Macmillan. $1.25.
Best small book on the question.

Patton, J. H. Political parties in the U. S. New Amsterdam Book Co. $1.25.
General in its treatment.

Sears, Hamblen. Governments of the world to-day. Flood. $1.75.
A Chautauqua book; fair and clear.

Spahr, C. B. Essay on the present distribution of wealth in the U. S. Crowell. $1.50.

A book that must be had as the only work dealing with the question; but it cannot be unqualifiedly recommended. The conclusions reached are frequently unsound.

Spencer, Herbert. The principles of sociology, v. 3. Appleton. $2.

Vol. 8 of the great "System of synthetic philosophy," and well up to the earlier level of the works produced by this greatest thinker of modern times. Devotes considerable space to modern economic methods, and points out that much of slavery still lingers in the wages system.

Taussig, F. W. Wages and capital. Appleton. $1.50.

Historically good; the best account of the wages fund doctrine.

Thompson, H. M. Russian politics. Holt. $2.

A first-class book; one of the best accounts of Russian affairs.

Walker, F. A. International bimetallism. Holt. $1.25.

Notable as the last work of its author; a very able plea for bimetallism and the best book on that subject.

Wells, D: A., *and others*. America and Europe. Putnam.

An admirable series of articles on international arbitration; Mr. Schurz's paper is especially excellent.

Willoughby, W. W. Examination of the nature of the state. Macmillan. $3.

Excellent; one of the best books of the sort ever produced in this country.

*Additions* should include:

Stimson, F. J. Handbook to the labor laws of the U. S. Scribner. $1.50.

The title suggests a law-book, but this little volume gives much useful information on boycotting, black-listing, rights of strikers, condition of factory worker, etc., and would be generally useful in a library.

Chance, W. C. Better administration of the poor laws. Lond., Sonnenschein.

A book that tells about the problems of the administration of charity and the great lessons to be drawn from these matters in England under the old poor laws.

Taylor, H. O. Ancient ideals. 2 v. Putnam. $5.50.

Gannett, H: Building of a nation. N. Y., H: T. Thomas. *subs.*, $2.50.

A summary of the 11th census, strongly commended for library reference; pub. in 1895.

Giddings, F. H. Principles of sociology. Macmillan. *net*, $3.

Mallock, W. H. Masses and classes. Edinboro, Black.

Pollock, *Sir* F. First book of jurisprudence. Macmillan.

NATURAL SCIENCE AND USEFUL ARTS.

Reviewed by T: L. Montgomery, Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.

In taking up the list of the books on science for popular libraries one is always struck with the fact that it is made up mostly of juvenile literature with a sprinkling of books which touch but lightly upon the scientific side of the subjects they gossip upon, and are classified as scientific because no one knows where else to put them.

In the list of scientific books of 1896 prepared for discussion the following are named for special comment:

Abbott, C: C. Bird-land echoes. Lippincott. $2.

This is not a scientific book, but is much more orderly in arrangement than is usual with the author. The chapters are devoted to special classes of birds which are disposed of in an entertaining manner. The illustrations seem to be from photographs taken after a most sumptuous diet of worms, as the puffed-out appearance of the breasts is far from natural.

Bonney, T. G. Ice work past and present. Appleton. $1.50.

Suitable for the advanced student. It covers only the ice work in Great Britain, as only 10 pages are given to America. It is well written, but very poorly illustrated.

Britton, N. L., *and* Brown, Edison. An illustrated flora. In 3 v. v. 1, Ferns to carpet weed. Scribner. $3.

An admirable work.

Chambers, G: F. Story of the solar system. Appleton. 40 c.

Unscientific; superficial; of very slight value.

Dana, *Mrs.*, F. T. Plants and their children. Am. Book Co. 65 c.

A capital book for young people; interesting and accurate.

Furneaux, W. S. Life in ponds and streams Longmans. $3.50.

A most excellent book for popular use.

Lowell, Percival. Mars.

A most interesting statement of the broad, physical features of the planet's surface, the origin of which it seems to the author impossible to ascribe to other than intelligent agencies.

Martin, E: A. Story of a piece of coal. Appleton. 40 c.

Excellent of its kind; compact and interesting.

Mason, W: P. Water-supply. Wiley. $5.

Full of facts gathered from various sources, and has the merit of being a small volume.

Mathews, F. S. Familiar trees and their leaves. Appleton. $1.75.

A most useful book. It has very good illustrations, drawn from nature by the author, and the text reveals the æsthetic as well as scientific side of the subject.

Meadowcroft, W: H. The A B C of the X ray. Am. Technical Book Co. 75 c.

A good popular treatise.

Munro, J: Story of electricity. Appleton. 40 c.

A book to create interest in scientific things; simply and accurately told.

Robinson, R. E. In New England fields and woods. Houghton. $1.25.

Composed of a series of papers written by a

keen sportsman. The book is most entertaining. The sketches first appeared in *Forest and Stream*, and they possess now a melancholy interest from the fact that the author has become blind.

Smith, J: B. Economic entomology. Lippincott. $2.50.

One of the best popu'ar books on the subject. It is on the whole preferable to Comstock; while the plates are not so well done as in that work, they are much more numerous and instructive.

Thompson, E. P. Roentgen rays and phenomena of the anode and cathode. Van Nostrand. $1.50.

Probably the best book on the subject written during the year.

Torrey, Bradford. Spring notes from Tennessee. Houghton. $1.25.

Useful for the list of birds found by the author at Chattanooga.

Wegmann, E: Water-supply of the city of New York. Wiley. $10.

An interesting historical description of the New York system; its many excellent plates make it valuable to any engineer engaged in the construction of water-works.

Witchell, C: A. Evolution of birdsong. Macmillan. $1.75.

Treats of a subject not hitherto handled very systematically by ornithologists. The author has been 15 years in collecting his data; the plates are poor.

### FINE ART.

Reviewed by C: A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

The great wave of interest in art which has swept over the country in the last decade has made it imperative to establish some sort of an art department even in town libraries. In setting one up four lines of purchase are necessary: Works of art; Books on art technique; Books on art principles, æsthetics, criticism; and Art histories. By works of art I do not mean pictures and statues, those are beyond the means of the town library; the $100 or $200 which one poor picture would cost would be much better spent in procuring 100 or 200 good photographic or heliogravure representations of the masterpieces of painting, sculpture, and architecture. The second class, works on technique, the small library should buy last; they are too special; the artist, if there is one in the village, should provide these for himself. But the third class, the works of æsthetics, criticism, inspiration, works which will explain, excite, develop, guide the sense of beauty, works of which we find three very different examples in the writings of Ruskin, Van Brunt, and Hamerton, these should not be absent. There is nothing so likely to kill a rising interest in art as feeding it with dry history. In art surely, if anywhere, we need the literature of power as well as the literature of information. And yet there is not one of that quality in this printed list.* For which reason I should add to it three.

First, Santayana's "Sense of beauty." [Scribner. $1.50.] Lowell, in his "Cathedral," speaks of

> "Learned folk,
> Who drench you with æsthetics till you feel
> As if all beauty were a ghastly bore,
> The faucet to let loose a wash of words."

This may be true of the older, metaphysical æsthetics. Mr. Santayana is a pupil of William James, and his æsthetics are, as is the way nowadays, founded on psychology. They are not, therefore, always easy reading for the learner; while following the method of his teacher he has not always succeeded in catching his luminous style. But they will repay a little effort with an intelligible theory and with occasional passages of eloquence. The paragraph, for instance, on the part which the flying buttress plays in charm of the Gothic cathedral is the best on that matter that I have ever met with.

Berenson's "Florentine painters of the Renaissance" [Putnam. $1], a work of what we might call the "higher criticism" in art, is ingenious and instructive, and should be added to the shelves that contain his "Lorenzo Lotto" and his "Venetian painters of the Renaissance."

Vernon Lee's "Renaissance fancies and studies" [Putnam. $1.25] is put in the printed list among "Miscellaneous literature." It belongs in Art; it is entirely on Italian art. I know there are those who do not rate Vernon Lee highly. To me she is delightful. She is often able to solve the historic question, "Why did this painter paint thus?" and the even more important question, "Ought I to admire his painting?" or "Why do I admire it, tho the critics say I should not?" or "Why cannot I enthuse where so many have been enthusiastic before?" Take for instance what she writes of the fascinating grace of Botticelli's ill-drawn figures. It is very acute criticism and good psychology. Or her clear and eloquent characterization of Italian Renaissance sculpture. It is admirable, and yet it justifies the title of the book, for it is full of what those who have not studied and enjoyed and been puzzled by the charm of that marvellous sculpture will term "fancies." And I confess that in read-

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* The printed list included:

Fletcher, Banister, *and* Banister, F. History of architecture. Scribner. $4.50.

Gardner, E. A. Handbook of Greek sculpture. Macmillan. $1.25.

Hamlin, A. D. F. Text-book of the history of architecture. Longmans. $2.

Marquand, A., *and* Frothingham, A. L., *jr.*, Text-book of the history of sculpture. Longmans. $1.50

Mathews, C: T. Story of architecture. Appleton. $3.

Muther, R: History of modern painting. 3 v. Macmillan. $20.

Sturgis, Russell. European architecture. Macmillan. $4.

Tarbell, F. B. History of Greek art. Flood. $1.

Twombley, A. S. Masterpieces of Michelangelo and Milton. Silver. $1.50.

Van Dyke, J: C., *ed.* Modern French painters. Century. $10.

ing some of the other essays I have been inclined to say, "Very gracious fooling." But it is graceful and it is well worth reading.

I would also add to the list Evans's "Animal symbolism in ecclesiastical architecture" [Holt. $2], a collection of mediæval stories and their use in mediæval church decoration, useful both to folklorists and to those who are studying Romanesque architecture.

Goodyear's "History of art" [7th ed., rev. Barnes. $3] is clear, condensed, and interesting.

Statham's "Architecture for general readers" [New ed. Scribner. $2] treats not only of the history of the art but of its principles and practice. Its illustrations are from drawings made by the author, which was necessary because they are chiefly of details, not of monuments, and many separate objects are represented in a single full-page plate. Of course they are not so attractive as photographs or good process plates from photographs.

The four histories of architecture given in the list are all good. Get them all if you can. I have enjoyed Sturgis's "European architecture" best. It is the richest in thought and feeling. All four are well illustrated. Of the three general histories each has its peculiar excellence. Fletcher's has useful parallel columns comparing the architecture of different lands, the Gothic of France and England, for instance; Hamlin's costs least; Mathews traces especially the influence of climate, race, religion, and politics on architecture, but his illustrations are wood-cuts and much inferior to the process plates in the others.

Marquand's "History of Greek sculpture" belongs to the set of college histories of art edited by J. C. Vandyke; its bibliography is good and it has a most useful list of addresses of sellers of photographs and plaster casts.

Gardner's "Greek sculpture" is a good condensed statement of the present state of knowledge, doubtful theories being left untouched or merely stated; the illustrations are excellent but too few.

Tarbell's "Greek art" is also well illustrated, tho not quite so well. It belongs to the "Chautauqua reading course."

Muther's "Modern painting" is not one of the first works to be be bought by a small library; it is too expensive; but it should not be long delayed, for it is a book of living interest; it treats with fulness and fairness of the painters of the day and the art theories now under discussion, and its very numerous illustrations, though too small for enjoyment, are a great assistance to the understanding of the text.

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## NEW AIDS FOR READERS.

A PUBLIC telephone (pay station) has been established in the Boston Public Library. It is in charge of a stenographer, who, in addition to ordinary stenographic and copying work, will furnish abstract or verbatim copies of records in the public library or accessible in other libraries in Boston and its vicinity.

## THE QUESTION OF INDEXES.

CANNOT something be done, either by the American Library Association or by librarians individually, to encourage the publication of indexes by regular publishers? Something which would tend to cultivate what the *Nation* is pleased to term the "index conscience"?

Within the last few years Macmillan in England and Appleton in this country have published a new edition of the essays of Huxley, but there is no index either to the set or to the individual volume. A complete index to this set would be of great value, both to libraries in general and to all students of modern science.

Spencer's "Synthetic philosophy" is another good example; some of the volumes of it are indexed and some are not. Such indexes as there are in a few of the volumes are very meagre instead of being very elaborate, as they should be.

The Macmillan Company has recently completed a new and cheap, but excellent edition of the works of Dickens. Scribner's Sons are about to issue in this country the "Gad's Hill edition," which will be more elaborate. It would surely be of great service to all students of fiction to have a complete dictionary index of such sets as these. A dictionary to a set of an authors' novels should cover in one alphabetical list (dictionary catalog style) the names of all persons and places described, historical events, particular abuses attacked, and other things of a similar nature. Following the names of all the important characters should be a brief description, of three or four lines, in the author's own words wherever possible.

The set of Balzac published by Roberts Bros. or the edition now being published by Macmillan should be treated in the same way. Thackeray, Peacock, and many other standard novelists might be fit subjects for such treatment as new and complete editions are published.

The difficulty in the way of persuading publishers to undertake the indexing of their sets is that they cannot see how they can get returns for the compiling, printing, and publishing of such indexes. If librarians were to take this matter up and, subject to definite qualifications, agree to purchase these indexes, or certain of them, as they might appear, the publishers would see that there was an assured sale for at least a given number of copies. Then if a decided effort were made by librarians to make the first few of these indexes successful, from the publisher's point of view, it would do much to encourage them in the effort.

Scribner's Sons will publish an index to their "Thistle edition" of Stevenson, covering some 25 pages. This, of course, is briefer than it might well be, but it is a great step in the right direction. It remains to be seen how this will be appreciated by the library world.

I shall be pleased to correspond with any librarians who are interested in this movement, and would much like to see the matter discussed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

FRANCIS D. TANDY,
*Public Library, Denver.*

## THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEW ORLEANS.

THE Fisk Free and Public Library of New Orleans was formally opened on the evening of Jan. 18. The exercises were held in the library building (formerly St. Patrick's Hall, the home of the Criminal District Court), and were attended by an audience of some 1200 persons. On the platform were Very Rev. F. Janssens, archbishop of New Orleans; Mayor Flower, Very Rev. Mgr. Mignot, of the St. Louis Cathedral; Right Rev. Davis Sessums, bishop of Louisiana; ex-Justice Charles E. Fenner, Rabbi I. L. Leucht, of the Touro Synagogue, Mr. Frank T. Howard, president of the board of commissioners of the Fisk Free and Public Library; ex-Mayor John Fitzpatrick, Messrs. A. Baldwin, George W. Flynn, S. H. March, and A. A. Le Long, of the board of commissioners; Councilman A. Brittin, and others. Prayer was offered by Archbishop Janssens, and Mayor Flower, in a short address, transferred the library to the control of Mr. Howard, president of the board of commissioners, and welcomed those present "to the formal opening of the Fisk Free and Public Library." Mr. Howard accepted the charge of the library, on behalf of the commissioners, in a few words. Addresses on the value of the library and what its influence should be in the future of New Orleans were made by the Right Rev. Davis Sessums, Bishop of Louisiana, and by Judge Fenner, of New Orleans. The benediction was pronounced by Rabbi Leucht. The exercises were interspersed by orchestral and vocal music.

The history of the Fisk Free and Public Library, the first absolutely free circulating library of New Orleans, is already familiar to readers of the JOURNAL, but it may well be reviewed here, now that the work of consolidation and organization is fully accomplished.

The nucleus of the present library was found in three modest collections, owned or controlled by the city, that have now been amalgamated into a single library. The first, the Fisk Library, was the gift to New Orleans of the brothers Abijah and Alvarez Fisk. It consisted originally of a bequest made by Abijah Fisk in 1843 to the city of New Orleans, in perpetual trust, of a property at the corner of Customhouse and Bourbon streets, then yielding an income of about $2000 a year, on condition that the property should be devoted to the maintenance of a free public library. This bequest was, of course, not sufficient for the establishment of a library, and for a time had no direct results. Later, however, Alvarez Fisk, of Natchez, purchased the 6000 v. private library of Mr. B. F. French, of New Orleans, and in March, 1847, presented it to the city in order to carry into effect his brother's bequest. The library thus founded never received very adequate appropriations or attained much popularity, and in 1853 it was transferred to the control of the Mechanics' Institute "to be held and used for the same uses and trust under which the building and library were held by the city of New Orleans, the rent of the building to be applied to the benefit and enlargement of the library." The change did not result in the benefits hoped for, and in 1882 the University of Louisiana became the successor and assignee of the Mechanics' Institute, and was duly charged with the care of the library. In 1884 the Tulane University of Louisiana succeeded the University of Louisiana as heir and assignee, and the custodianship of the Fisk Free Library became a privilege of Tulane University. Under its charge the library was faithfully and effectively administered, and the collection was increased from 8000 v. to 15,000 v. On the removal of the university in 1895 from its old home to new quarters in a less central part of the city, the university authorities sought permission to transfer the Fisk library to the new university buildings. This, however, the city would not consent to, feeling that the Fisk library was too valuable and useful a collection of books to be removed so far from the business and geographical centre of the city, and thus the library remained in the old Mechanics' Institute building until Jan. 16, 1897, when it was transferred to the new library.

The second collection to be consolidated into the new library was the public school library, or Lyceum Library, established in 1844 as a subscription circulating library, and moved to the city hall in 1849. In the next few years several similar libraries were established, and in 1852 the common council passed an ordinance domiciling all the municipality libraries in the city hall under the name of the "Public Library of the City of New Orleans." Later, in 1859, the privilege of life membership was extended to "all the white youths of the city," and to other contributors on such terms and conditions as might be deemed compatible with the interests of the institution. For some time after the war the library suffered the loss of many books, and all progress was at a standstill; and indeed it has never been a prominent factor in the educational life of the city.

The third collection to form part of the new library consisted of some 8000 volumes of miscellaneous literature that were housed in the state library. These have been transferred to the new organization, with the intention of making the state library essentially a law library.

The consolidation of the Fisk Free and Public libraries is notable chiefly for the ease with which the consolidation was effected when it was once decided upon, more than half a century after the establishment of two separate libraries, both of which contemplated in their inception what has now been accomplished, and neither of which attained the desirable end until united with the other. The first step towards that end was made in 1895, when the Criminal District Court was removed from its home in St. Patrick's hall and the question of the disposition of the old building was raised. The suggestion that it be used for a public library was made and met at once with popular approval,

and in April, 1895, an ordinance was passed directing the city to place St. Patrick's hall in condition for use as a free circulating library, which was to be established by the consolidation of the Fisk free library and the public library. A board of directors was to be appointed to govern the library, to adopt regulations regarding the use of the books, and to exercise authority. On Oct. 2, 1896, this ordinance was amended by a provision transferring to the control of the board of directors the custodianship of the Fisk free library and its income, and all balances to the credit of the public library, and giving to the board of directors for the maintenance of the new library such income as could be derived from the rental of whatever portions of the St. Patrick's hall property were not occupied by the library or needed by the city for municipal purposes. Thus the handling of the funds of the library was taken out of the city treasury and away from the influences of partisan politics, and the board of directors were made directly responsible for the administration of the library. The board of directors consists of seven members, to serve for life, with the mayor, and succeeding mayors, as *ex-officio* life members. Mr. F. T. Howard, who has been one of the most active workers in the library cause, is the president.

During 1896 the work of altering and fitting up the building for its new purposes was diligently carried on, and on Dec. 7 Mr. William Beer was elected librarian of the consolidated library (*see* L. J., Jan., p. 52). The library begins work with about 34,000 volumes and cannot fail, under the effective charge of its librarian, to become a power for good in the civic life of New Orleans. Mr. Beer also maintains his position as librarian of the Howard library, and he plans the close co-operation of the two institutions, the Howard serving as a reference library, while the Fisk library carries on the work of a more popular circulating library.

## LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE Library Association of Australasia has published the "Account of the proceedings of the first Australasian Library Conference," held at Melbourne, April 21–24, 1896. The meeting, which was the first of the sort held in Australia, was reported in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for June, 1896 (21 : 275). and the proceedings contain much that is of interest and usefulness to librarians. The pamphlet is a large octavo of 66 pages, including a full report of the meeting, the papers read, list of delegates, constitution, and officers of the association, etc. The subjects treated at more or less length by different speakers include among others "Cataloging," by H. C. L. Anderson, of the New South Wales Public Library; "Libraries from the reader's point of view," by Sir Henry Wrixon; "A model library building," by W. B. Tappin, illustrated with plans of one-story and two-story structures; "The librarian and his work," by Hugh Wright and E. L. Armstrong; "Fiction in public libraries," by J. P. Wilson; and "The decimal classification of Dewey," by Caleb Hardy. The president of the association is Hon. Dr. James Norton, president of the board of trustees of the New South Wales Public Library; the secretary is H. C. L. Anderson, principal librarian New South Wales Public Library. It is planned to hold the 1897 conference in Sydney. In connection with the Melbourne meeting an interesting loan exhibition of rare, old and curious books, bindings, etc., was held in the McArthur Gallery under the direction of the trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria. The meeting was in every way successful and stimulating, and the association seems to have entered upon its work in the most promising fashion.

## ART FOR THE SCHOOL-ROOM AT DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ON Dec. 28–31, 1896, an exhibition of mounted pictures, designed chiefly for school-room purposes, was displayed at the Denver Public Library that was as original in plan as it was interesting and successful in result. The exhibition was held during the annual session of the state teachers' association, which lasted for four days and had an attendance of from 300 to 700 daily. Its purpose was chiefly to show what can be done, with material that costs little and is easy to get, toward decorating the walls of a school-room. The pictures shown consisted of full-page illustrations from *Scribner*, *Century*, *Harper's Weekly*, *Harper's Bazar*, the *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Life*, etc., colored supplements from the *Art Amateur* and *Art Interchange*, colored cartoons from *Puck* and *Judge*, magazine or book posters, photographs of celebrated scenes and paintings, Japanese prints, artists' sketches from the *Art Amateur*, etc. From 10 to 20 of each class of picture were shown, besides quite large collections made in schools of the smaller magazine pictures, and they included examples of the work of most of the leading American illustrators. The various classes were grouped separately on screens about seven feet high covered with burlap. In the selection and preparation of the exhibit, and in the preparation of the descriptive circular published concerning it, the library had the assistance of a committee from the Artists' Club, of Denver. This circular, of which 500 copies were distributed, is well worth the attention of librarians interested in using the influence of the public library toward appreciation of art as well as toward appreciation of books. It sets forth briefly the essentials of a good picture, tells how the collection was started, and how the selecting and mounting are done in the schools, and describes the use made of the pictures in the school-room and by the library. The several kinds of pictures shown are also briefly described and their leading features pointed out, and a few practical suggestions are given as to mounting and exhibiting similar collections.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

THE second annual report of F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of Documents, for the year ending June 30, 1896, was issued in the latter part of January. As the report for 1895 covered a period of only six months, during but three of which the work of the office was actually in progress, the present report really presents the record of the first full year of work. During the year the Document Office has received a total of 486,871 public documents of all kinds, of which 252,602 v. were accumulations from various departments, 31,321 were duplicates returned by libraries, and about 60,000 were copies received for cataloging purposes. Of the documents received 105,170 were distributed to depository libraries, 65,823 to other libraries, 13,580 were distributed on the order of congressmen, 951 were supplied to departments and bureaus to complete official files, and 3581 copies were sold, bringing in total receipts of $889.09. The remainder, 297,390 volumes, have been assorted, classified, and preserved in the Document Office for reference. There are now 445 depository libraries on the list of the Superintendent of Documents; 253 other libraries receive certain government publications under the provisions of the printing law of 1895; and an additional list of libraries, numbering 623, has been created to receive the publications of the U. S. Geological Survey; so that there are in all 1321 libraries on the distributing list of the office, as against the 421 listed in the preceding report. During 1896 the Document Office has issued 18 "Monthly catalogues," a "Check list of public documents," a first annual report, a draft of a proposed bill to improve present methods of government publication, and a "Document catalogue" of 638 pages. Mr. Crandall gives interesting notes on each of these enterprises. He also describes at some length the establishment of the "document library," which now contains about 15,000 v., and which it is hoped in time may be made a fully complete and accessible collection of government issues. The whole report is well worth reading, and is commended to the attention of librarians.

## REVIEWS AND CRITICISMS FOR READERS.

MR. A. E. BOSTWICK, librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, says in the recently issued (17th) report of that library: "Work has been begun on a collection of criticisms and reviews to be made accessible to the public. It is hoped that this may in some degree present the advantages of access to the shelves without any of its disadvantages. The criticisms, clipped from the current literary magazines, which were formerly sold for old paper, are pasted on cards about five inches square and filed away, alphabetically by authors, like catalog cards, each having a written heading including author's name, title, and call number.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

### *SPECIAL MEETING.*

THE special meeting of the American Library Association, Feb. 6, 1897, at Columbia University, New York City, was called to order by President Brett at 2:40 p.m. The call for the meeting was read by Secretary Hayes (*see* L. J., Jan., p. 23).

The president stated that in accordance with this call the special business of the meeting was to consider the reincorporation of the American Library Association under the laws of the United States.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, chairman of the special committee appointed by the president (the other members being Messrs. Dewey and Bowker), made his report. The committee having found that the executive board had no authority to take action toward reincorporation, this special meeting was called. As a basis for discussion the committee offered the following:

"*Resolved*, That the American Library Association authorizes the executive board, or such committee as it may appoint, to take any steps necessary to procure the reincorporation of the A. L. A. under act of Congress instead of under the laws of Massachusetts, provided that in the judgment of the executive board such reincorporation prove to be practicable and to be of advantage to library interests."

Mr. Putnam stated that at the hearing before the joint committee on the Library of Congress, held at Washington, Dec. 1 and 2, 1896, Hon. L. E. Quigg, of the committee, suggested such incorporation, and that the act might include a proviso that a committee of the association should act as a board of visitors to the Library of Congress. Mr. Putnam also read a draft of an act which would cover the points above suggested.

The report of the committee was accepted.

After discussion, in which Messrs. Baker, Soule, Flint, Skinner, and Miss Kelso took part, Mr. Carr offered the following substitute motion as an amendment:

"*Resolved*, That the executive board take under consideration the matter of procuring reincorporation, and report thereon to the coming annual meeting of the A. L. A."

After further remarks by Messrs. Flint, Nelson, Putnam, and Bowker, all in favor of the amendment, Mr. Carr's substitute was carried.

This concluded the official business of the meeting, which had been called only for the consideration of reincorporation.

Mr. Nelson reported that the proceedings of the Cleveland conference would probably be issued by March 1.

Adjourned at 4:07.

GARDNER M. JONES, *Recorder.*

A. L. A. SPECIAL MEETING: ATTENDANCE REGISTER.

*preceding name indicates non-members of A. L. A.

Anderson, Edwin H. Ln. Carnegie L., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Andrews, Clement W. Ln. John Crerar L., Chicago.
Baker, G: H. Ln. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.
Bigelow, Frank C. Ln. New York Society L., N. Y. City.
*Billings, J: S. Ln. New York P. L., N. Y. City.
Bowker, R. R. LIBRARY JOURNAL, N. Y. City.
Brainerd, Helen E. Cataloger Columbia College L., N. Y. City.
Brett, W: H. Ln. P. L., Cleveland, O.
Browne, Nina E. Ln. Library Bureau, As. Secretary A. L. A. Publishing Section, Boston, Mass.
Carr, Henry J. Ln. P. L., Scranton, Pa.
*Collar, Mildred A. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Eames, Wilberforce. Ln. Lenox L., N. Y. City.
*Farman, Mary E. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.
Flint, Weston. Washington, D. C.
Haines, Helen E. LIBRARY JOURNAL, N. Y. City.
Haines, Martha B. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.
Hayes, Rutherford P. State Library Commissioner, Columbus, O.
Herzog, Alfred C. Ln. P. L., Bayonne, N. J.
Iles, G: Journalist, N. Y. City.
Jones, Gardner M. Ln. P. L., Salem, Mass.
Kates, Clarence S. F. L., Philadelphia.
Kelso, Tessa L. Ex-Ln., with Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y. City.
Lemcke, E., of Lemcke & Buechner, N. Y. City.
Lowenstein, Leon B. Memphis, Tenn.
Martins, Charlotte. As. Ln. Princeton Univ. L., Princeton, N. J.
Merrill, E: B. Ln. Assoc. of the Bar, N. Y. City.
Montgomery, T: L. Ln. Wagner Free Institute of Science, Philadelphia.
Moore, Annie C. As. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Nelson, C: Alexander. Deputy Ln. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.
Nolan, E: J. Ln. Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.
*Ogden, Lucy. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.
Plummer, Mary W. Ln. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Prescott, Harriet B. Cataloger Columbia College L., N. Y. City.
Putnam, Herbert. Ln. P. L., Boston, Mass.
Rathbone, Josephine A. As. Pratt Institute F. L., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Richardson, Ernest C. Ln. Princeton Univ. L., Princeton, N. J.
Skinner, James A. Ln. N. Y. State Teachers' L., Albany, N. Y.
Solberg, Thorvald, with Boston Book Co., Boston, Mass.
Soule, C: C. Trustee P. L., Brookline, Mass.
Stetson, Willls K. Ln. P. L., New Haven, Ct.
Stevens, W. F. Ln. Railroad Y. M. C. A. L., N. Y. City.
Stonelake, Isola P. As. P. L., Newark, N. J.
Thomson, J: Ln. F. L., Philadelphia, Pa.
*Tobitt, Edith. Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Underhill, Adelaide. Ref. Ln. Vassar College L., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Van Hoevenberg, Alma R. As. Ln. Washington Heights L., N. Y.
Van Zandt, Margaret. As. Columbia College L., N. Y. City.
Wing, J. N., with Charles Scribner's Sons, N. Y. City.
Winser, Beatrice. As. Ln. P. L., Newark, N. J.

THE QUESTION OF REINCORPORATION.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, chairman of the committee appointed to consider reincorporation, makes the following statement of his views on the matter:

I was one of those who last December favored immediate action looking to the reincorporation of the A. L. A. under United States laws; I signed the call for the special meeting of the A. L. A. held on Feb. 6; and I nevertheless favored the postponement involved in the vote passed at that meeting.

1. The advantages of a national charter for the A. L. A. are as clear to me now as they were two months ago, *e.g.* A national standing. Headquarters in Washington. Advantages to the association similar to those secured to the American Historical Association by its federal charter. Possible advantages to federal interests similar to those secured to federal interests by the charter of the National Academy of Sciences.

Why should *not* a national association be incorporated under national laws?

2. Congress is reluctant to grant such special charters. It seemed to me, therefore, wise to take advantage of Mr. Quigg's offer to introduce the bill, and to take advantage of it while his interest was fresh.

The meeting of the A. L. A. had to be notified 30 days in advance, so that the call had to be issued hastily in order to bring the date before the adjournment of Congress.

But

3. I had not favored final action by the Association without a definite assurance in writing on the part of Mr. Quigg and the joint committee on the library of a continued interest in the enterprise and readiness to secure passage of the bill.

4. At the date of the meeting such assurance, though requested, had not reached us.

On the other hand, the original suggestion for the reincorporation of the A. L. A. was coupled with a suggestion that it should undertake a service in the way of visitation of the national library. This suggestion also was advanced by Mr. Quigg. I did not and do not see why the Association should decline to render such a service, provided the Library of Con-

gress be a national library, whose administration is a matter of national concern, and provided the A. L. A. be the best representative of the experience and judgment of the library profession of the United States and of the interests represented in the libraries of the United States.

But such a service was not to be volunteered. It should be rendered only upon a request on the part of the authorities at Washington, explicit, formally expressed, and cordially supported by the librarians at Washington.

Down to the date of the meeting such a request in such form had not been received. On Feb. 6 I could not, therefore, vote for any bill with a provision for visitation.

I had also intimation that certain prominent members of the A. L. A. felt that the reincorporation could not be applied for at this time without suggesting an ulterior motive of visitation.

Though still disposed to favor the reincorporation for the advantages to be secured as indicated above, I favored the postponement of the application until it could be made with the general approval of members of the A. L. A., with no misconstruction of its motive, with adequate consideration as to details, and with reasonable assurance that it would meet with success. HERBERT PUTNAM.

FEB. 8, 1897.

Mr. Hayes and Mr. Bowker also desire to express their approval of Mr. Putnam's statement and their endorsement of the views there set forth.

*PROPOSED A. L. A. PROPAGANDA APPROPRIATION.*

PREVIOUS to the special meeting the following circular was issued by Mr. J. C. Dana to members of the A. L. A. and to the various library associations:

"*To the Special Meeting of the American Library Association, Feb. 6, 1897, New York City.*

"It is very important that the membership of the A. L. A. be increased. A thousand librarians, library assistants, and persons interested in libraries, can easily be found who, by joining the association, will add to its efficiency and to their own enthusiasm and effectiveness. An association of 1000 members can speak with more authority and can do more to promote the library spirit and to dignify the library profession than can one of 400 or 500. I hereby urge such members of the association as may be gathered in special session on Feb. 6 to adopt a suitable resolution expressing their desire that the proper officials notify the secretary of the association, Mr. Rutherford P. Hayes, that he may spend $500 from available funds of the association in the next few months in such propaganda work for the association as to him and the president seem advisable. This money would be expended in securing the presence at state and city library association meetings either of Mr. Hayes himself, or of some other able and popular representative of A. L. A. interests, in securing the publication in proper journals of articles telling of the aims of the association, and in the distribution by means of periodical literature, or circulars, or letters, of such reading-matter as may encourage the growth of the library spirit, and in other like ways — and always in securing new members."

The matter presented in the circular was, however, necessarily deferred for action till the annual conference, as it was not embodied in the call issued for the special meeting, and was therefore out of order, under section 19 of the constitution of the A. L. A.

*HANDBOOK.*

THE A. L. A. Handbook for 1897 has been published, and copies may be obtained by addressing the secretary, R. P. Hayes, State Library, Columbus, O. Every member should have copies of the "Handbook," not only for reference but for distribution. The new edition is modelled closely upon that of 1894, but brings the record of library matters up to January, 1897. The full printed list of members of the A. L. A., brought up to the same date, will be generally welcomed. Another useful feature is the list of library associations, which, however, does not include the Western Pennsylvania Library Association or the new Travelling Library Association of North Wisconsin. A list of state library commissions and a short tabulated statement of the library laws of the different states would have been useful features, and might well be embodied in future editions.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION. State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE annual meeting of the association was held Jan. 8 at the Mechanics' Institute. President Rowell presided, and in a brief address reviewed the work of the association for the year. He dwelt in particular on the good accomplished in bringing the librarians into closer and more cordial relations, and outlined what might be accomplished in the future.

Professor William Dallam Armes, of the University of California, read an extended paper on the "Plantin Press and Museum of Antwerp," in which he described the many beauties of that unique repository, illustrating it with many photographs and sketches.

Mr. Kimball made a short address, in which he showed the importance of state library commissions, and urged the association to use its influence toward establishing one for California.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the publishers of *Harper's Weekly*, *Scribner's Magazine*, *Review of Reviews*, and of all other periodicals be earnestly requested to regularly forward to libraries and subscribers title-page, table of contents, or index for each volume with the concluding number of the same, or, in the case of weeklies, as soon as possible thereafter."

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* John Parsons, Public Library, Denver.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Colorado Library Association was called to order at 8 p.m. on Friday evening, Jan. 15, in the Chamber of Commerce, by President Whitaker.

Preceding the regular papers on the program and under the head of miscellaneous business the association decided to take some action regarding the appointment of a state library commission. There is now before the state legislature a bill introduced by the association providing for such appointment, and the association decided that after conferring with the governor and learning whether a suggestion would be agreeable or not, it would be desirable to have the executive committee send a list of 15 names to each member of the association, from which they should select eight names to be submitted to the governor, with a recommendation that he appoint the commission of five members from that list, providing the bill passes.

The association also endorsed a petition urging the passage of the bill now before Congress which relates to the printing and distribution of public documents.

The first number on the program, "Book printing," by Mr. J. Harry Carson, was then heard. Mr. Carson had all necessary exhibits for illustrating his talk, and the audience had a very good idea of the operation of the printing office when he finished. Mr. Carson went into detail and described the making up of a 32-page form and the folding of the paper. He also showed the various kinds of type and a variety of cuts and half-tones, explaining the manner of making and using each.

Mr. A. T. Bowen then talked on "Binding." He had with him a selection of the tools of his trade, and explained bookbinding in detail, giving practical illustrations of sewing, using several different methods; and also showed the methods of fastening on the case or covers.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary*.

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

JOINT MEETING WITH NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATIONS.

THE sixth annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association and the second union meeting of the library associations of the New England states was held in the hall of the Connecticut Historical Society, Wadsworth Athenæum, Feb. 3.

The morning session, held at 11 o'clock, was a business meeting of the Connecticut Library Association, at which the usual reports were read and accepted. An invitation from the Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury, to hold the May meeting with them was referred to the executive board. The following officers were elected: President, Frank B. Gay, Hartford; Vice-presidents, Frederic Bill, Groton, Isabella Eldridge, Norfolk, Frederick Hurd, Bridgeport, Ellen Spencer, Naugatuck, Mrs. Donald T. Warner, Salisbury; Secretary, Angeline Scott, South Norwalk; Assistant secretary, Josephine S. Heydrick, Southport; Treasurer, Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain.

At 1:30 the Massachusetts Library Club held a business meeting.

The union session, at 2 p.m., opened with a large attendance, representatives being present from all the New England states except Maine. Mr. W. K. Stetson, president of the Connecticut Library Association, introduced Hon. James G. Batterson, vice-president of the Wadsworth Athenæum.

Mr. Batterson, after extending a cordial welcome to the city of Hartford and the freedom of the library, expressed the deep interest of the people in the importance of the duties of a librarian. To know what books to read, how to read them, and where to find them were questions of great importance in every community. The librarian cannot control the tastes nor the habit of the reader, but can frequently give sound advice. It is to be regretted that the use of our circulating libraries is, to a too great extent, a matter of temporary diversion rather than mental discipline and useful education. Novel-reading is not to be condemned because the characters are fictitious, for by such means we may exemplify the most exalted truth or preach the gospel of love and mercy. It is true that the best thoughts of great writers of modern times have been expressed in fiction, and the question is how to use these works as a means of education rather than one of dissipation. The confirmed novel-reader is always being filled but never fed; and, though he may submit to advice, he never will to dictation. Established courses of reading will seldom be followed. "Very few of those who read most can bear examination on the books they have read; they

have simply had a temporary diversion — have been amused — and that is all.

"I have often thought that a monthly meeting of the readers in a library, to discuss the authors, ask questions, and submit papers on the various subjects of their reading, would not only be profitable but lead to more careful and studious reading. The selection of a subject for inquiry and discussion at a future meeting, far enough removed to admit of generous reading and some preparation, would lead to a demand for the authorities on that particular subject, and stimulate reading and investigation to a most profitable end and purpose. Give your readers opportunity for questionings and discussions on the subjects treated by the books they read, and you will in a great measure correct the vice of aimless and desultory reading, by providing a point for immediate application. One finds that he has gained something by the moral which follows the plot of a beautiful story; another finds instruction in the sublime art of its telling; and both find facts in fiction which are well worth saving.

"An association of library readers for the purpose of reviewing in a home-like and conversational way the books which have been read might be made very helpful, not only to the readers themselves but also to the librarians and the committee who supply the material for their use. A library reader has been attracted by the story of 'Ben-Hur' to the enormous wagers laid on the result of the chariot race at Antioch, and he sends up the question, 'What is the sum of 120 talents in our money?' No one answers, and the question is referred to some one who will look it up and reply at the next meeting. Another asks, 'Which one of the Cæsars is referred to when Drusus shouts, "Who but Cæsar hath 50 talents at order!"' Such questions break the ice, and the discussion on the relations of Rome to Antioch, the grievances of the Jews, the horses of the desert, and the customs of the time becomes general, and all who have read the books are amazed to find how many interesting and important points have been overlooked by hasty reading."

In answer to the call for reports from New England library associations, Miss Louise G. Bartlett, of the St. Johnsbury Athenæum, reported from Vermont. The association had had but one meeting, as the libraries are so widely separated, the librarians in many cases having no salary, that it is difficult to get together. Since organizing the library commission 61 new libraries have been started.

Mr. W. H. Tillinghast, secretary of the Massachusetts Library Club, said that the chief question of interest before their club during the year had been that of continuing the lists of select fiction The report on the matter submitted by the executive board of the club is printed elsewhere. (*See* p. 98.)

The report from Connecticut given by the secretary showed that three meetings of much interest had been held, and that 36 towns had accepted and added to state aid in behalf of their libraries.

Mr. Herbert Putnam, librarian of the Boston Public Library and president of the Massachusetts Library Club, then gave a most interesting address, which opened with a graceful response to Mr. Batterson's welcome and a tribute to the advantages of Hartford in respect to its libraries. In examining the list of subjects discussed by the American Library Association, the Library Association of the United Kingdom, and many of the state associations, he found a large per cent. of the subjects discussed in the state association to be the same as those in the general associations, and suggested that, while the general associations should take the larger subjects of library administration and economics, the state associations might do better to spend a larger percentage of their time on matters of more local interest; local history, bibliography, and special industrial needs, purchase of books, inter-library loans, and especially the discussion of books, that would help the librarian in making his selections for purchase; that they insist upon a higher standard for library assistants; and that they emphasize the prerogatives of librarians. The librarian should be consulted in planning the building, in selection of books, and choosing of assistants. The librarian of to-day has a difficult problem presented to him in this age of free thought, free speech, and unlicensed publication. The idea that a library should "deny to the public nothing that a bookseller has to offer," he, though of a family of booksellers, most emphatically repudiated. A library should be progressive in many things, but conservative where it concerns a question of morals and social order, and he earnestly urged the librarians to use their influence in counteracting the revolutionary tendency of the age.

Justin Winsor, LL.D., of Harvard University, was unavoidably detained in Boston, so his paper on "Maps" was omitted.

Rev. Samuel Hart, D.D., of Trinity College, opened the discussion on "Co-operation in Hartford libraries." The method pursued among the five libraries of Hartford he explained as having sprung up in a natural way, according to the nature of the libraries themselves, rather than on a definite plan, and was to a great extent useful in the prevention of duplicates and the saving of money for necessary purchases.

The state library, devoted to works of jurisprudence, would have books not needed in the other libraries; the Watkinson Library had many large and beautifully illustrated books, also many technical works; the Historical Society had genealogies and local histories; the Theological Seminary, collections of Bibles in different languages, hymnology, special periods of ecclesiastical history, as well as theology; Trinity College had collections of pamphlets and sets of scientific works, English state history, and lexicography; while the Public Library supplied the current and standard literature. Thus, by co-operation, they had succeeded in making of the five one great library, sending the inquirers to the one where the

best books on special subjects are to be found. He also suggested that it was a great help in getting rid of book agents, as one could always be sent to the library farthest away.

Mr. W: E. Foster, of the Providence Library, being prevented by illness from attending the meeting, sent his paper on "Co-operation in Providence libraries," which was read by Mr. F. B. Gay, of the Wadsworth Athenæum. The three Providence libraries represented three well-known types which are ideally adapted for co-operation with each other, namely, the public library, the shareholder's library, and the college library. A regular monthly meeting of the librarians of the different libraries was held for the purpose of comparing notes and consultation.

Similar methods for the preventing of duplicates as those used in the Hartford libraries are in use. The fundamental principle connected with the accessions to the library is, that the community as a unit is to be kept in mind rather than the constituency of any one of the libraries separately. One of the provisions of the Athenæum Library is that the librarians of Brown University and of the Providence Public Library shall be considered shareholders of the Providence Athenæum, thus making it possible to add, without embarrassment, books that might not otherwise be selected. The Public Library, in its monthly bulletins, by placing the initials A. (Athenæum) and B. (Brown) against the titles of such works as are also in those two libraries, not only tells where the books are to be found, but helps, in future purchasing, to prevent duplicating. The last bulletin of the year also has 40 pages of a record of books added to the three libraries. They also unite in the publication of a list of their periodicals, serials, and annuals, which has been enlarged so as to cover 20 libraries and reading-rooms in the vicinity of Providence. It comprises 1100 entries, and will appear each year in one of the numbers of the monthly bulletin.

In the discussion that followed, Professor Perry spoke of the Hartford periodical lists published.

Mr. C: A. Cutter, of Northampton, said that the two municipal libraries of that city co-operate with each other and also with the Amherst College Library.

Mr. Fletcher, of Amherst, remarked that the library superstition that a book once in the library should stay there sometimes prevented exchanging books to places where they would do more good.

Mr. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, said that the Athenæum Library was giving away books to the Medical Library without getting anything in exchange for them.

Mr. Gay mentioned the transfer of pamphlets from the Hartford Public to the Watkinson Library.

Mr. C: D. Hine, of the state board of education, in answer to a question, stated that the school libraries of Hartford were mostly in the Hartford Public Library, just the place, he thought, where they should be.

Mr. Putnam said he thought the most serious question was the getting the book out of the catalog, and that some libraries were growing poorer from the collections of books which they cannot get rid of.

Mr. Bowker, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, emphasized the importance of sending lists of missing numbers or books wanted to be inserted in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

A resolution passed by the Library Association of Central California requesting publishers of periodicals to send title-page and index with the last number of volume or as soon after as possible, without request, was read, and after some little discussion a motion was made that Mr. W: I. Fletcher and Mr. T. Solberg be instructed to draw up a resolution to send to the A. L. A. committee, desiring them to consider the question at the next general conference. The vote was put and carried.

Miss Caroline A. Garland, of the Dover Public Library, read a very bright and interesting paper on the "Trials of a librarian," to which justice could not be done in a report, but which will appear in full in the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Invitations from Prof. Perry to visit the Case Memorial Library, and from Dr. Hart to visit Trinity College Library, were given, of which many present availed themselves the following morning.

Mr. W. C. Lane, chairman of the committee on the trip abroad, reported progress and stated that a final circular would soon be issued with full particulars. The party expect to sail June 26, either from Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, according to the accommodations that can be secured, and the net cost will be about $350.

Mr. Eastman, of the New York State Library, said a few words about the library department of the National Educational Association, and earnestly advised the executive board of each association represented to secure, if possible, the attendance of five delegates at the annual meeting of the National Educational Association of Milwaukee in July, 1897. As all the associations would have meetings of their own before that date, it was thought best to defer action until the state meetings.

A message of greeting from the Library Association of Washington City was read, and an invitation was given from the New Hampshire State Association to hold the next union meeting with them a year hence, or at such time as the different associations might decide upon.

The meeting was then adjourned to the United States Hotel, where the Connecticut Library Association entertained its guests at supper, about 150 being seated at the table.

An informal reception was held in the evening at the Wadsworth Athenæum, with an exhibition of engravings and prints illustrating the Stuarts of England, newspaper prints, scrap-books, etc., in the Public Library, and the treasures of the Historical Society. Charles Dudley Warner, who was to have given the evening address, was prevented by illness from so doing.

MARY A. RICHARDSON, *Secretary.*

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

ON Jan. 20, 1897, the Illinois State Library Association convened at the state house, in Springfield, Ill., for the annual meeting. It was principally a business meeting. The reports of the various officers were read and approved. The following resolution was adopted by a rising vote:

*Whereas*, Miss Evva L. Moore, secretary of the Illinois State Library Association, has rendered most efficient and valuable service in the discharge of the duties of her office during the past year, and has labored unceasingly and indefatigably to forward the interests of the association, in all ways within her power, and

*Whereas*, It is learned with deep regret that her professional duties will render it impossible for her to accept a re-nomination; therefore be it

*Resolved*, By the Illinois State Library Association, in annual convention assembled, that Miss Moore's services in its behalf be and hereby are most gratefully acknowledged, and the necessity under which she finds herself of declining re-nomination be and hereby is most sincerely regretted; and be it further

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the permanent records of the association, and a copy of the same forwarded to Miss Moore by the secretary presently to be elected.

The following officers were elected: President, Col. J. W. Thompson, president public library board, Evanston; Vice-Presidents, E.S. Willcox, librarian Peoria Public Library, and G. B. Meleney, Library Bureau, Chicago; Secretary, Miss Ange V. Milner, librarian Illinois State Normal College, Normal; Treasurer, P. F. Bicknell, librarian University of Illinois, Champaign.

This resolution was then adopted:

*Whereas*, Miss Katherine L. Sharp has rendered most efficient service during the past year as director of the Bureau of Information established by the Illinois State Library Association, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the association hereby express its appreciation of Miss Sharp's work as director of the bureau, and request her to continue it during the coming year.

There was a discussion of the steps necessary to establish the much-desired state library commission.

Mr. Dana's circular was read, requesting the special meeting of the A. L. A. soon to be held, to authorize the secretary of that body to spend $500 in advancing the interests of the A. L. A. The wording of the circular was somewhat modified and then endorsed by the association, and the proper officers were instructed to sign it in its amended form and forward it for the special meeting.

It was announced that the National Educational Association invited all library associations to send duly accredited delegates to the meeting of the N. E. A., to be held in Milwaukee next July. It was decided that the president of the Illinois State Library Association should appoint a representative to attend that meeting.

The meeting closed with an informal discussion of a question asked by a new member — "How is a membership in this association going to benefit a subscription library?"

ANGE V. MILNER, *Secretary.*

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago Ill.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

THE meeting of the Iowa State Library Society, which was held in Des Moines, Dec. 29–31, 1896, was one of unusual interest and importance. This was the seventh annual meeting of the society, which met as the library section of the state teachers' association, as it had done for the two meetings immediately preceding. For the first day a full program had been prepared, two sessions being held. On the second and third days only half-day sessions were held, the rest of the time being given to the meetings of the general body. The following is the program in full:

TUESDAY, DEC. 29. — *First session.* — Enrolment of members.
- Reports of secretary and treasurer.
- Reports of committees.
- History of library work in Iowa — W. H. Johnston, president board of trustees, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Second session.* — Advantages of a state library commission — W. P. Payne, president board of trustees, Public Library, Nevada.
- How to select and purchase books — Elizabeth Peterson, librarian Public Library, Council Bluffs.
- The proper relation between the library and the public — Mrs. Rosa Oberholtzer, librarian Public Library, Sioux City.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30. — *Third session.* — Care and use of public documents. J. R. Orwig, first assistant, State Library, Des Moines.
- Cataloging — Abbie R. Knapp, cataloger Public Library, Des Moines.

THURSDAY, DEC. 31. — *Fourth session.* — Reports of committees.
- Election of officers.
- Value of a public library to a community — Mrs. M. P. Scheeler, librarian Public Library, Marshalltown.
- General questions and discussions.

The subjects of the papers had been chosen with the combined purpose of stimulating interest and giving practical information. Each topic had received careful treatment by the person to whom it had been assigned, and each paper was followed by a discussion which developed its helpful points.

The paper upon the "History of library work in Iowa" traced the development of libraries in the state, including the state library, state university library, Iowa historical department, various association libraries, and the many free public libraries which have been established throughout the state, showing how the work has developed from small beginnings.

Mr. Payne, in presenting "The advantages of a state library commission," set forth the benefits to be derived from a centralization of library interests and the consequent harmonious development of the work throughout the whole state, and showed how valuable such a commission had proved itself in other states.

"How to select and purchase books" was a subject full of practical interest, and the paper upon this topic gave helpful suggestions as to methods of selecting books in a systematic way so that the library might be built up symmetrically. It also considered desirable plans of making book purchases, the writer believing that the plan of buying from a large central house was, upon the whole, more satisfactory than any other.

Mrs. Oberholtzer's paper upon the "Proper relation between the library and the public" was rich in suggestions as to ways in which a library may be made attractive and useful to the people who visit it, and set a high standard for those who are responsible for library administration.

"The care and use of public documents" is not a fascinating subject to the average librarian, but the completeness and value of the information to be found in the publications of the government were made so prominent by Mr. Orwig that the sheep-bound volumes bearing the government imprint took on a new interest in the minds of his listeners. Attention was called to the various helps which have been published in the way of indexes to these publications, and the hope was expressed that in the near future more complete work might be done in this field.

The lesson in cataloging was in pursuance of the course of study which was adopted by the society two years ago, the subject of "Classification" having been taken up at the meeting of last year. Blackboard illustration was used to show cataloging methods in detail, and various books were provided, the cataloging of which served as an object lesson.

The paper upon the "Value of a public library to a community" emphasized the civic and economic value to the community at large, as well as the recreative and educational one to the individual. Attention was called to the fact that libraries are always classed with churches, schools, and business and industrial institutions as elements in the life of a community which aid in its development and attract citizens of the most desirable class.

One important result of the meeting of the society was its decision to withdraw from the connection which it has for two years past held with the teachers' association, and maintain an independent organization. It is the belief of a majority of the members that the organization will be strengthened and have a better growth if the library society meets independently, and at some other date than that of the regular meeting of the teachers' association. The society will therefore soon become an incorporated body, the following members having been appointed a committee to draft articles of incorporation: C. H. Gatch, president board of trustees, Des Moines Public Library; Mrs. Lana H. Cope, state librarian; J. W. Rich, librarian state university, Iowa City.

The next meeting will be held in Des Moines, the time to be fixed by an executive committee composed of the president and secretary *ex-officio*; Mary Cassidy, librarian Public Library, Winterset; Jennie Carpenter, librarian Drake University, Des Moines; and J. W. Rich. Mr. Rich has for two years served the society most acceptably as its president.

Officers for the year 1897 were elected as follows: President, W. H. Johnston; Vice-president, W. P. Payne; Secretary, Ella M. McLoney; Treasurer, Mrs. Lana H. Cope.

An earnest attempt is to be made to secure a library commission for Iowa. An extra session of the legislature will be held the present winter, but as it is called for the special purpose of revising the code it is possible that no other legislation will be taken up. There is some hope, however, that the matter of a library commission may receive attention.

ELLA M. MCLONEY, *Secretary*.

### *MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

### *MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

#### REPORT ON CONTINUING FICTION LISTS.

THE Massachusetts Library Club accepted, as an organization, the invitation extended by the Connecticut Library Association to be present at the second union meeting of New England library associations at Hartford, Ct., on Feb. 3. About 35 members of the club were present. A business meeting was held just before the afternoon session of the associations. The following report from the executive committee was read:

At the annual meeting in October last the committee on lists of select fiction presented a report of their year's work. The question whether the club should undertake to continue the lists was referred to the executive committee, with full power, but under the condition that the expense to the club was not to exceed $50 annually.

At this time it was thought that the publishing section of the A. L. A. would be able to undertake the publication and distribution of the lists, but this they subsequently found themselves unable to do, and recommended that the lists be published in some library or literary journal.

The 12 numbers published last year cost in round numbers, and exclusive of sample

copies of no. 1, $143, of which $81 was paid for printing, $45 for expressage and postage on books, and $17 for office expenses and postage on the lists. Independent publication, therefore, could not cost much less than $150 a year, while publication in a journal would cost $60, and perhaps more, since during the first year many readers bore the expense of the transmission of books, which, of course, could not be expected as a permanent arrangement.

Either plan seemed to be beyond the resources of the club, the annual surplus from our income never having reached $50. Before coming to a decision, however, the executive committee wished to ascertain as accurately as possible the opinions of those who had received the lists upon their actual value as a guide in selecting books, and also whether it would be possible to continue independent publication by means of an increased subscription price. Circulars were sent to all persons who had received the lists — about 600 in number. The circular stated the difficulties of the situation, and asked from each recipient a reply to questions printed on a detachable sheet.

Of the 600 persons to whom the fiction lists had been supplied for a year, 242 returned the sheet of questions with more or less full replies. From these the following results appear:

1. 141 made considerable use of the lists in selecting books for purchase; 85 made little or no use of them in this way.

2. 100 persons, not being members of the club, were willing to pay 50 cents a year for the lists published separately, 77 members of the club were willing to pay 25 cents a year; in all 177 were willing to subscribe; 41 were unwilling to pay at all for the lists.

3. 75 preferred publication in a journal, 94 preferred independent publication, 30 had no preference, and 43 did not reply to this question.

Criticism of the lists was invited in the circular; from what was written under this head it appears that the great majority were well pleased with the form of the lists and with the standard of judgment shown in selecting the books. The larger libraries, however, found the lists of little value as an aid to selections, because books were generally on their shelves before the lists containing their titles reached the library. Yet these libraries were willing to support the lists because they thought them likely to be of use to small libraries. On the other hand, the very small libraries, which buy books but once or twice a year, found the lists of no use for reasons which will appear from one or two quotations:

"The lists are all right for a large library, but we have no trouble in selecting standard works, as we have but little money to spend."

"They would be useful to purchasing committees who had plenty of funds; it is the aim of our committee to obtain history, biography, and travels, and they put into the library the least possible fiction."

"As many of the books on these lists are just out they are more expensive than books which have been on the market longer. We have only the return from the dog tax to expend yearly, so we do not purchase as many of the books just published as we otherwise might; therefore the lists are not of as much use to us as they doubtless are to libraries in larger towns."

"The books from the lists are mostly too high-priced for us to purchase."

There remains a class of libraries of medium size, say from 1000 to 10,000 volumes, in which the lists are really of practical use in aiding selection; these libraries are by no means confined to Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Of those willing to subscribe 50 cents 48 were from other states, including California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The cost of publication on either plan would clearly exceed the sum of $50 allowed by the club, therefore the committee voted not to continue the preparation of the lists, and notice to that effect was sent to the publishing section, which, pending our discussion, had reserved for the use of our readers the works of fiction received for cataloging.

It was well known when this enterprise was undertaken that the unaided resources of the club would not be enough to carry it on permanently. Although the support promised for the future is not sufficient to make up the deficiency the committee feel that the experiment has been both of interest and of use. The replies to the circular show clearly that the lists are highly valued by libraries in a certain stage of growth, and that this value is not local but national. There are also many indications that a better acquaintance with the lists would prove them of use in libraries where they have not yet even recognition. It cannot be said that the experiment has failed, it has simply not had sufficient length of trial.

The club of itself cannot continue the work — its income under present conditions is too small — and during the first year there were signs that it would be difficult to find a continuous supply of readers under the plan adopted. If it is desired to continue the experiment it should be the work of a larger and more powerful organization. If the A. L. A. is unable to undertake it, a possible means might be found in the co-operation of local associations. At the time when it was thought that the co-operative cataloging might be transferred to New York a letter was written to the president of the New York Library Club inquiring whether in case of such transfer that club would undertake the publication of the lists for a year. In response to this inquiry a committee to consider the question was appointed by the club. The retention of the cataloging work in Boston naturally prevented the committee from advising the New York club to undertake the work, but it extended to this club a cordial offer of

assistance with the earnest hope that the work would not be discontinued.

We recommend the appointment of a special committee to confer with the committee of the New York Library Club and to correspond with other library organizations, to see whether means can be devised for continuing the work begun by the fiction committee of the Massachusetts Library Club, by co-operation as regards labor and expense.

In conclusion the committee wishes to express warm appreciation of the work done by the fiction list committee, with such enthusiasm, energy, and painstaking carefulness. To the Library Bureau we are grateful, not only for permission to use the books whenever the undertaking became possible, but for other favors almost as essential to carrying on the work.

On motion of Mr. Stone the report was accepted and the recommendation of the committee was adopted. The president announced that the committee would be announced later. The meeting then adjourned to attend the session of the Connecticut Association. The addresses and discussions were greatly enjoyed, while the supper at the United States Hotel and the social evening at the Wadsworth Athenæum were extremely pleasant.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

THE eighth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held in Manchester at the city hall, Jan. 27. It was in every way successful. The morning session was called to order at 11:30, and was addressed first by Mayor Clarke, who paid a deserved tribute to Miss Kate E. Sanborn, city librarian, and said he was especially glad to welcome to the city an organization of the character of the association.

Before the meeting proceeded to the election of officers, Miss Caroline H. Garland, of Dover, read some amendments, which were unanimously adopted. Their aim was to make the president and other officials the active officers of the association, and the report of the nominating committee being next accepted the following is the new executive board for 1897: President, A. H. Chase, Concord; Vice-presidents, Prof. M. D. Bisbee, Dartmouth College, and Col. Daniel Hall, Dover; Secretary, Miss Grace Blanchard, Concord; Treasurer, Miss A. E. Pickering, Newington.

Pamphlet copies of a paper on "Co-operation among the libraries of New Hampshire," written by State Librarian A. H. Chase, were in the possession of the members and a discussion upon the matter was introduced, the point most discussed being the recommendation that towns and cities interchange the books of their libraries on request. Col. Hall, of Dover, the first speaker, was heartily in favor of the proposition to loan the books of the state library at least. These books are the property of the whole people of the state, and the right book has often been instrumental in the development of a great mind. Col. Hall closed by saying that the meetings of the association were priceless and of inestimable value to the New Hampshire public.

The co-operative suggestion was next discussed by Mr. J. H. Whittier, of the State Board of Library Commissioners, and by Mr. Fred. Gowing, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Mr. Whittier called the idea the "travelling library craze which our New England town library system will outlive." It "savored of paternalism," "was wrong in principle and with no compensating benefits."

Mr. Gowing declared that the needs of pupils and teachers throughout the state could be supplied by the loaning of books, not only from the state library, which was a right, but from town library to town library.

Mr. Whittier replied that this was contrary to the constitution; that one town could not be taxed for the wants of another.

Mr. Gowing retorted that when Manchester was on fire Nashua would be glad to lend her engines and men. Everybody now concerned in the loan idea was on fire, or ought to be. He said New Hampshire was sparsely populated, and many teachers found it impossible to procure much-desired books. "The greater the schoolma'am's disadvantage, all the more eager we should be to help her." Mr. Gowing thought the physician, the lawyer, and the mechanic could argue in favor of the loan idea from the standpoint of their professions or trades as he could from that of teacher.

This live discussion was brought to a close amid laughter and applause by the need of adjournment for dinner at the hotel. Previously, however, a committee was appointed to report at the next meeting of the association on the other points in Mr. Chase's paper which touch upon the winning of new members, the number of yearly meetings, the publication of

a state periodical devoted to library interests, the forming of a committee to reply to librarians puzzling over any question, etc.

At 2:30, after an enjoyable repast, and with increased attendance, the association opened its afternoon session by welcoming Mr. W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst. Mr. Fletcher's subject, "Library administration for practical results in the community," led him to talk in a most charming and entertaining manner. He is not in favor of too much conventionality in library methods and would like to see, instead of the delivery-desk and coolness of employes, shelves open of access and hospitality and encouragement on the library banner.

Mr. Gardner M. Jones, librarian at Salem, Mass., who was present and favored the association by being its next speaker, felt that freedom of access was not best under all circumstances, and that the new and progressive Philadelphia library, praised by Mr. Fletcher for its open arrangement, suffered a loss of many hundred volumes because of its ease of access. Mr. Jones had taken pains to think what special lines of books would be needed in New Hampshire and named works on forestry, good roads, and even cooking, for its chief industry, which he understood was that of summer boarding.

Miss Moulton, of Exeter, who was to have participated in the discussion upon Mr. Fletcher's paper, was unavoidably absent.

Miss Grace Blanchard, of Concord, the other librarian on the program, said she felt the pulse of the public's needs by reading signboards and newspaper locals, and by thus ascertaining what things residents were making or doing, she was enabled to call their attention the next time they came to the library to the works which would be of benefit to them.

The meeting then adjourned at 4 o'clock. Votes of thanks were extended to the people of Manchester, Mayor Clarke, and to the retiring president of the association, Mr. W. W. Bailey, of Nashua, who has been most interested in furthering the cause. The good judgment, cordiality, and managing ability of Miss Sanborn are also deserving of mention as having made the day a success. She, with Miss Garland and Mr. Gowing, have made the remarkably fine executive committee of the past year. Every member present in Manchester availed herself of the opportunity to visit the public library and there study Miss Sanborn's improvements.

At the rate at which interest and enjoyment in the New Hampshire Library Association have increased, librarians, thankful that the one session has grown into two, will soon be clamoring for a meeting to last two days.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary.*

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* John B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

A JOINT meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club will be held in Atlantic City, N. J., on Monday April 5. Two sessions will be held, on Monday afternoon and evening, and return will be made the next day. A public library is much needed in Atlantic City, and it is hoped that this meeting will be effective in strengthening the local library sentiment.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.
*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.
*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton,
*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.
*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

THE January meeting of the club was held on Monday, Jan. 11, by invitation of Professor Wilson, in the rooms of the Philadelphia Museums. The meeting was attended by 90 odd members and was called to order in the library of the museum. In the absence of Mr. Rosengarten, the president, owing to illness, Mr. John Thomson, of the Free Library, was called to the chair.

After some formal business the following officers for the years 1897–98 were nominated: President, Henry J. Carr, Scranton Public Library; 1st Vice-president, John Thomson, Free Library of Philadelphia; 2d Vice-president, Robert P. Bliss, Bucknell Library, Chester, Pa.; Secretary, Miss Mary P. Farr, librarian of the Girls' Normal School; Treasurer, Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute.

Prof. William Wilson, the director of the Museums, then delivered a short address upon the proper interrelations between libraries and museums. He dwelt upon the character of the literature which was being collected. This was necessarily confined to such books as "Consular reports," "Statistical journals," and writings which dealt with the production and development of manufactures. One result of the work has been a serious intention to introduce the growth of rubber into Florida. A representative of the museum will spend a year in the upper parts of the Amazon making a study and collection of all that is material to the proper cultivation and growth of rubber. The natives may not be very highly educated, but they have been sharp enough hitherto whenever seeds have been purchased and

taken from the country to boil them before parting with them, thereby rendering them entirely unproductive. After the address he conducted the members round various parts of the museum and gave a most interesting talk on the system pursued, showing in this Commercial Museum the gradual use of fibrous matters from their existence as living plants through successive processes till they become mercantile articles.

THE February meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held on Thursday, Feb. 4, at the Wagner Free Institute of Science, and was attended by 70 members. The principal business of the evening was the election of the following officers for 1897–98: President, Henry J. Carr, of Scranton; Vice-presidents, John Thomson and Robert P. Bliss; Secretary, Miss Mary P. Farr; Treasurer, Miss Helen G. Sheldon.

The incoming president nominated the following executive committee: John Edmands, chairman; T: L. Montgomery, Alfred Rigling, G: P. Rupp, C. S. Kates, Misses Alice B. Kroeger and Jennie Y. Middleton, Mrs. Fell and Mrs. Resag.

The discussion of the evening was devoted to the life and works of Richard Harris Barham, of "Ingoldsby" fame. Mr. Lorin Blodget read a long and carefully-prepared description of the life of Barham, contrasting the ecclesiastical and author sides of the writer and graphically detailing the characteristics of the coterie of punsters and humorists with whom Barham passed the brightest part of his career.

Miss Edith Ridgway next read a clever review of "Ingoldsby's" works, pointing out in detail the attitude shown at the beginning of the present century towards the legendary part of Christian lore.

The general impression was that the preparation of such papers by library assistants before their critical peers in library work was excellent both for the writers of the papers and their companions in library life.

Notice was given that early in April a union meeting between the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club will be held in Atlantic City. The meeting promises to be very successful, and the Atlantic City citizens' committee are taking up the matter with a view of making the visit of the librarians helpful towards the establishment of a free library in Atlantic City and pleasant to the visitors.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* W: R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

ON Jan. 14 the Western Pennsylvania Library Club met in the lecture-room of the Carnegie Free Library of Allegheny. The subject for discussion was "Library legislation." Reports on the present laws of various states had been prepared by different members of the club, and several of these were read in order to show the methods employed in other states for the advancement of library interests. A general discussion followed. A letter from Mr. John Thomson, of the Philadelphia Free Library, was read, outlining the plans for legislation of the librarians in the eastern part of the state. The following resolutions were offered and adopted:

"*Whereas*, The state of Pennsylvania, according to the last census, though second in wealth and population, ranks last among the 20 important northern states in the number of books in public libraries per 1000 inhabitants, Massachusetts having 1233 and Pennsylvania *seven;* and

"*Whereas*, This condition of things is largely due to the lack of progressive library laws, in comparison with other important states;

"*Resolved*, That the Western Pennsylvania Library Club is in favor of further legislation to promote the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries throughout the state.

"*Resolved*, further, That, in view of the excellent results obtained by means of travelling libraries in other states, and the evident demand for libraries of this kind throughout Pennsylvania, the club favors an appropriation by the state for this purpose."

It was decided to appoint a committee to confer with librarians, library trustees, friends of libraries and representatives throughout the state, with a view to drafting a plan of general library legislation for Pennsylvania.

There was a good attendance at the meeting, and the experiment of a morning hour, 10 a.m., proved a decided success. The subject for discussion at the March meeting will be "The library and the children."

WM. RICHARD WATSON, *Sec'y-Treas.*

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. A. Hutchins, Baraboo.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss L. E. Stearns, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* Miss May L. Bennett, 1888 Sheridan Road, Evanston.

*Treasurer:* W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so good-day!"

A MEETING of the Milwaukee Library Round Table was held on Jan. 23, 1897. After an in-

formal luncheon, Miss Mae E. Schreiber made a talk on "Library reading at the Normal School," illustrated with annotated lists of children's books, prepared by students of the school. The talk elicited many inquiries into Miss Schreiber's methods, and proved exceedingly interesting.

On Feb. 5 Mr. George Kilian, in charge of the bookbindery at the library, explained his method of binding books.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 20th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, Jan. 27, 1897, Mr. W. P. Cutter presiding.

Miss Frances M. Durkin and Mr. James W. Cheney, both of the War Department Library, were elected to membership. The president announced that the following had been appointed as the committee to prepare a handbook of the association: Mr. F. H. Parsons, Miss Edith E. Clarke, and Mr. Henderson Presnell; and as program committee Dr. H. C. Bolton and Dr. Cyrus Adler.

The first paper of the evening was presented by Mr. W. P. Cutter, and treated of "Printed card indexes and catalogs." He said that the printed card is coming into use for two purposes: for a catalog of books, either co-operative or independent; and for an index to the current literature on a given topic. The Boston Public, Harvard, and Crerar are examples of libraries that print catalog cards for their own use. The co-operative cataloging system of the Library Bureau, now transferred to the publishing section of the A. L. A., was described. Expressing the opinion that this plan had not yet proved a financial success, Mr. Cutter suggested as a practical plan of co-operative cataloging that the central office should obtain of publishers a limited and varying number of copies of books in the sheets, bind them in a standard and durable binding, catalog them, and furnish the printed cards with the books. Specimens of the Library Bureau and Crerar cards were handed around for inspection.

The demand from investigators for indexes to the present as well as the past literature of their specialties has led to the publication of card indexes. Specimens of three such indexes were shown. First, the index to the publications of agricultural experiment stations in the United States, issued by the Office of Experiment Stations in the Department of Agriculture. These cards contain, beside the index entry proper, a summary of the article indexed. Second, an index to the literature of American botany, issued by the Cambridge Botanical Supply Company. This is rather a card bibliography of American botany than an index. Third, an index to new species of plants, prepared by Miss J. A. Clark, of Washington. This serves as a card supplement to the Index Kewensis, which covers the field down to 1885. The card index to the literature of zoölogy, furnished by an international zoölogical-bibliographical institute in Zurich, was also described, and the schemes of the Royal Society and the International Bibliographical Institute at Brussels for an index to all branches of science were alluded to.

The chief objections to all printed card indexes or catalogs are the cost of preparation, the amount of space they occupy, the danger of misplacing the cards, and the time required for arranging them. The card system, Mr. Cutter concluded, while not without its drawbacks, must be replaced by something better before we can disparage it.

The second paper was prepared by Mr. Albert F. Adams, of the National Museum, and was read by Miss Margaret Dyer. It was a description of a new system of notation, known as the "Combining system," devised by Mr. Adams. It is hoped that this paper will appear in full in the JOURNAL.

W: S. BURNS, *Secretary pro tem.*

## Library Economy and History.

*GENERAL.*

BARRETT, Francis Thornton. On the selection of books for a reference library. Lond., J. Bale & Sons, 1896. 10 p. O.

A paper read at the Buxton conference of the L. A. U. K., September, 1896.

CHADWICK, Ja. R. Medical libraries: their development and use. (*In Transactions* of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, 1895–96.) p. 131–141.

Dr. Chadwick's paper was read at the formal opening of the new hall and library of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty, last January, and is an interesting account of the growth of medical libraries in the United States. A chart is given, showing the annual growth of the seven principal collections of medical books in this country. Dr. Chadwick has been the librarian of the Boston Medical Library Association for the last 20 years.

*LOCAL.*

*Aurora, Ill.* The Woman's Club of Aurora (Ill.) devoted the afternoon of Feb. 2 to the subject "The Aurora Public Library." The history of the library was presented by Mr. Shaw, the librarian, followed by addresses from Miss Katherine L. Sharp, Chicago, Ill., Miss Frances Le Baron, Elgin, Ill., and Miss L. E. Stearns, of Milwaukee, Wis., on the various relations of the library to the community.

*Boston P. L.* On Jan. 17 Carl B. Christenson, who said he was a professor in Waterloo College, Waterloo, Ia., was arrested for stealing books from the public library. There were found at his rooms 63 books taken from the Boston Public Library, and a number bearing the stamp of the Hartford Public Library. The arrest was due to information given the police by a second-hand bookseller to whom Christenson had offered some of the stolen volumes. The defence at first entered was kleptomania, but the prisoner pleaded guilty, and on Jan. 19 was sentenced to three months in the house of correction.

*Braddock, Pa. Carnegie F. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1059; total 12,343. Issued, home use 53,065 (fict. 76 %); no exact statistics of ref. use are kept. Amount spent for salaries, incl. janitor help, $3960.

The circulation shows a gain of 1113 v. during the year, and a decrease in fiction reading from 78 % to 76 %. There has been a gain in the issue of books in all classes except fiction and natural science, in which latter division there has been a loss of 100 v.

A re-registration of borrowers was conducted during the year; 8000 persons had received cards since the library was opened in 1889. There are now 2255 borrowers on the register, of whom 646 are residents of outlying towns.

More than one-half the books in the library are works of fiction, a proportion that Miss Sperry thinks unusually large. She recommends that the collection be more symmetrically developed, and that a book fund be established, to be available between the months of October and May. "After the holidays there are many good opportunities to buy good books at auction sales, and it is desirable that the librarian should know how much money there is to depend on."

The most important work of the year has been the changing of the classed card catalog into dictionary form; at present it is impossible to undertake a printed catalog, on account of its expense. The printing of the library report, which has not yet been done, is considered of more importance.

"In January an index to events of local importance mentioned in the newspapers was begun, and has been continued through the year. This is largely a labor of love, for the benefit of posterity. Years hence, when the history of Braddock comes to be written, the carefully-preserved files of daily papers, with a continuous index to their contents, will be a treasure which the historian will appreciate. It is probable that the newspapers will cooperate with us in the work by printing the index for each year."

The children's room has been made more attractive, and is constantly used. The addition of some quiet games is suggested, as is also the plan of teaching the children to cut pictures for scrap-books, but lack of sufficient supervision makes this impossible at present.

The library has a collection of about 600 pictures, mostly illustrations from magazines mounted on tag-board, also colored "art supplements," studies for china painting, embroidery, etc. These were exhibited for a week in November, and aroused so much interest that an art loan exhibition has been prepared for February.

A weekly column of library notes has been started in one of the local papers, and copies are mailed from time to time to people who it is thought will be specially interested.

Miss Sperry says: "Much of the success of the work depends on the intelligence and enthusiasm of the attendants at the loan-desk. To increase their interest and to promote good-fellowship between us a weekly meeting is arranged in the librarian's office on Tuesday afternoons. At such times matters of practical interest are talked over and systematic instruction is given in the use of reference-books, card catalog, and other library tools. Special books are assigned for examination during the week and are reported on at the next meeting. A manifest interest has been aroused, and amply justifies the time spent by librarians and assistants in this branch of work."

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* The third annual art loan exhibition was opened in the art department of the library on Jan. 4. It included about 127 pictures — oil paintings and pastels — of which about 75 % were shown at the last spring exhibition at the N. Y. Academy of Design, and most of the others had been displayed at the Boston Academy of Fine Arts. It will be succeeded by a water-color exhibition.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) L.* On Jan. 19 the board of aldermen adopted a resolution providing for the introduction into the legislature of an enabling act under which the city may contract with the library authorities for the administration of the library as a free public institution supported by city appropriation. Immediately on the passage of the resolution it was signed by the mayor. The bill was promptly sent to Albany, and on Jan. 27 was reported from the cities committee. Its passage is practically assured.

*Carpentersville (Ill.) P. L.* The library building given to the village by Mrs. G. P. Lord, of Elgin, Ill., was opened on Jan. 2. It is deeded to the Carpentersville Congregational church, subject to a 99 years lease, held by the library board. The building is of brick, with stone trimmings, and contains lecture-room as well as reading-room, reference-room, stack-room, etc.

*Cedar Rapids (Ia.) F. P. L.* The library was opened to the public on Jan. 14, and the statistics of use for its first week of existence are most encouraging. They show a registration of 528 borrowers, to whom 566 v. were issued for home use, while there were 1012 visitors to the reading-room. This is a most gratifying exhibit of the place the library has at once taken in the life of the community.

*Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. A.* (Rpt.) Added 430; total 5015; issued 12,000; membership 332. Receipts $1060.52; expenses $974.72.

*Chicago, library specialization in.* The directors of the Public Library, the Newberry Library, and the John Crerar Library some months since held several conferences on the inadvisability of duplicating their collections, and agreed on the following classification for each library:

"Public Library. — All wholesomely entertaining and generally instructive books, especially such as are desired by the citizens for general home use. Also collections of newspapers, patents, government documents, books for the blind, and in architecture and the decorative arts.

"Newberry Library. — Literature, language, history, sociology, philosophy, religion, fine arts in part, medicine.

"The John Crerar Library. — Physical and natural sciences, useful arts, fine arts in part, social sciences and their applications."

Social science will be included within the field of both the Newberry and John Crerar libraries, as the demand for this literature is so great that no considerable amount of duplication is considered unnecessary. The Crerar Library will be strictly scientific, and yet sufficiently broad in its classification of the sciences. Medicine will be omitted only on account of the value of the collection already made by the Newberry Library. A number of scientific works belonging to the Newberry Library already have been purchased and transferred to the John Crerar Library. The division of classification now being rapidly consummated will increase greatly the specialized scope of Chicago's three great libraries. It has been proposed to publish one large catalog which will cover the books of the three institutions.

*Chicago, John Crerar L.* The date of opening of the library has been extended from Feb. 1 to April 1.

*Chicago, Newberry L.* The bibliographical museum of the Newberry Library was opened to the public on Monday, Jan. 4. The room used for the purpose is on the first floor, west of the main entrance; it is well lighted and fitted with several upright wall bookcases and with central museum cases, in which the rarer bindings and mss. are displayed. The complete collection numbers about 1500 v., though only a part of that number are yet displayed. Among the examples shown are 53 v. of incunabula, 51 illuminated mss., 53 v. containing rare specimens of early engraving, and 111 noteworthy bindings. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on week-days.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* A number of blackboards have recently been placed in the library, on which timely bulletins are presented. In the juvenile department a recent inscription was: "Boys, do you want war stories? The following are now in;" then followed a list of the books available; another board contained this inscription: "Artistic book-making: see our open racks"; and the announcement was made good by the display of an interesting collection of fine bindings and rich editions. An open rack filled with books was marked: "Old friends in new dresses," and another: "A choice collection of good books, German and English." A collection of books and periodicals relating to horses was a recent popular exhibit.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* A recent exhibition at the Case Library consisted of a collection of books and plates intended to illustrate furniture and interior decoration. It showed examples of furniture from various periods and countries, and was particularly rich in specimens of colonial furniture; including also reproductions of frescoes, tapestries, etc. An exhibition of amateur photography was opened on Feb. 1.

*Colorado, lib. legislation in.* On Jan. 15 Senator Crosby introduced into the state senate a bill creating a board of state library commissioners, to be appointed by the governor and to have supervision of all free public libraries in the state. This bill was prepared by the officers of the Colorado Library Association and has the hearty support of that body.

*Denver (Colo.) P. L.* The library recently issued an invitation to the public, as follows: "Are you interested in what celebrated men and women have accomplished, what they looked like, where and how they lived? Call and take your choice from the collection of biographies which the public library offers this week."

*Detroit (Mich.) P. L.* In his annual message the mayor recommends the establishment of two branch libraries as necessary if the library is to remain in its present location. He adds: "In my opinion too much money is spent by the present board of library commissioners for scientific and technical works, which are seldom called for, and not enough is used for the kind of books sought for by the average taxpayer."

*Erie (Pa.) P. L.* On Jan. 14 the contract for the construction of the new library building was awarded to Henry Shenk for $100,397.

*Forestport (N. Y.) P. L.* The new library building was dedicated on Jan. 30 under the auspices of the local Literary and Social Union, through whose efforts it was established. The building, which cost $1300, is two-storied, containing on the first floor a library-room 20 x 30 feet and lighted on three sides, with kitchen and sitting-room for the use of the caretaker and his family; the upper story contains a large room not yet in use, and bedrooms for the caretaker. The library will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; as yet it is used only as a reading-room, but efforts are being made to obtain sufficient books to make it a circulating library as well. The site for the library was given to the association by the heirs of the Blake estate in Forestport; the money for its establishment was raised by subscription, and many of the fittings were given by local dealers.

*Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.* The building committee of the college decided on Jan. 13 upon a site and plans for a new library building, to cost $25,000, the gift of Gen. J. Watts De Peyster, of Tivoli, N. Y. The building will be located in the lower end of the campus, and will have room for 75,000 v.

*Galena (Ill.) P. L.* (2d rpt.) Added 751; total 3389. Issued, home use 25,327(fict. 22,547); visitors to reading-room 32,569. New registration 186; total cardholders 1387.

*Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L.* The civil service system has been introduced into the administration of the library, and after Feb. 1 all appointments will be made only after a competitive examination of applicants.

*Green Bay, Wis. Kellogg P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 546; total 4993. Issued 40,558; visitors to reading-room 6441.

The library was open 303 days, and the circulation shows an increase of 14,474 over the previous year.

*Greenville, Mich.* The libraries of the high school and the Ladies' Club have been consolidated into a public library.

*Hartford, Ct. Watkinson L.* (33d rpt.) Added 1013 v., 266 pm.; total 48,884.

The year's additions included a number of rare and valuable accessions to the departments of history and architecture. "The collection of pamphlets made by Noah Webster were received from the Hartford Public Library as being more suitable to this library; volumes of *Macmillan's Magazine*, *Educational Review*, and the London *Spectator* were given in return, as the public library takes these journals and needed them to fill its sets."

The following sets were indexed during the year: *Englische Studien*, *Anglia*, and *Die Graphische Kuenste*. "This brings to notice a great number of scientific articles filled with the latest knowledge, and they have been carried into the card catalog. The library duplicates which had been accumulating for many years were sent to Boston and sold in May. About 714 v. and 348 pm. were disposed of by auction for $543. Certain books from the Brinley gift were included, and it is interesting to note that nearly every one brought a higher price than when sold with that library."

*Helena (Mont.) P. L.* Mr. Patton, the librarian, is bringing the library effectively before the public through the medium of the local press. He has published several interesting reading lists in the Helena *Independent*, among the recent ones being good lists on Woman suffrage, *pro* and *con*, and Electoral reform.

*Huntington (L. I.) L. A.* (22d rpt.) Added 64; total 3933. Issued 3204. Receipts $352.41; expenses $338.29.

*Hutchinson (Kan.) P. L.* The library was opened to the public on the afternoon of Jan. 16. It is open two afternoons and evenings of each week.

*Illinois, lib. legislation in.* On Jan. 19 Representative Bryant introduced into the state legislature a bill amending the library law so as to enable townships or cities of not less than 5000 inhabitants to organize libraries in the same manner as is now prescribed for cities of larger population.

*Indiana, lib. legislation in.* A bill has been introduced into the state legislature by Senator McCord providing for "a state library system in connection with the schools of the state." Control of the state library and the state library system is vested in the state board of education, which shall also act as a state library board. The state "system" shall comprise the state library and all local libraries supported wholly or in part by taxation, and the management of the various libraries shall be vested in the local school boards, with general supervision and inspection by the state board. The bill provides at length for the appointment of a state librarian and assistants by the library board, the former to serve for a term of two years or until a successor is appointed; it outlines work to be done by the state library force to aid teachers in the use of books, through reading circles, etc., and provides for the loaning of books from the state library. The bill, as may be seen, gives a very wide extension of power to school authorities; it practically gives the state librarian authority over all libraries, and it is a curious example of what library legislation should not be. It has been opposed by the state library association and it is to be hoped that this opposition will be effective.

*Iowa City (Ia.) P. L.* The library was opened on the evening of Jan. 20, when a large audience attended the dedicatory exercises. It starts work with 1300 v.

*Kansas City (Kan.) P. L. A.* Added 208; total 1450. Issued 3146; membership 172.

*Kansas State L., Topeka.* (Biennial rpt.—two years ending June 30, 1896.) Added 2761; total 37,577.

The librarian briefly reviews the library laws of the several states where travelling libraries or state commissions are established, and urges the adoption of similar legislation in Kansas. Most of the report is devoted to opposing the suggested transference of the miscellaneous collection of the state library to the care and control of the State Historical Association, thus making the library distinctly a law library and largely extending the province of the association. "This attempt to divide the state library, and despoil it of one of its principal features, has been made with biennial regularity for a decade of years, but each time has failed to meet with the approval of the legislature. If any plan of consolidation is seriously contemplated it is only fair to suggest the feasibility and propriety of removing the miscellaneous books of the historical library to the state library, leaving the historical department in full control of the books, manuscripts, papers, and other collections pertaining to the history of Kansas and that part of the country

with which the state is directly connected by boundary tradition."

*Kenosha (Wis.) P. L. A.* The first annual report of the association, presented at a meeting held Jan. 11, is an interesting review of the work accomplished since the first meeting to consider the establishment of the library was held in January, 1896. The association started work with 144 members, each contributing $2 yearly. With the $288 thus secured a library-room was obtained at a nominal rent, contributions of furniture, books, and periodicals were asked and received in considerable numbers, and a gift of $1000 was made to the association by G. T. Yule. This was followed by the gift of a like sum from Edward Bain, and on March 14, 1896, the library was opened to the public. On the first day 60 books were issued. The library now contains 2954 v., and during the 10 months covered by the report 916 borrowers have drawn 14,801 books. The president of the association recommends that the present plan be tried for the new year, as the time is not yet ripe to obtain support by taxation. He asks for subscriptions from citizens for the support of the library, for new members, and for gifts of books and magazines. Children's books are especially needed. The thanks of the association are tendered to Miss L. E. Stearns, of the state library commission, "for the many valuable suggestions which she made to the management in the preliminary work of establishing the library."

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* (7th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 11,034; besides book purchases $3429.42 have been spent for periodicals. Total, "in round numbers," 93,000 v., of which 20,000 are duplicates. Issued, home use 559,053, an increase of 24% over 1895, being "the largest increase in a single year which has ever taken place." Library and reference use is estimated at 1,000,000, and this is said to be a conservative figure. The issue statistics show that 48% of the circulation was from the central library, 52% from branches and stations, and 20,877 v. were circulated through the public schools. During the year 11,095 borrowers' cards and 590 shelf permits have been issued.

The salary expenses for the staff of 46 persons amounted to $22,743, as against $22,949 for 45 persons in 1895. "During six months of the year a portion of the staff suffered a heavy reduction of wages. The deprivation was borne in every case cheerfully, each employe recognizing that the city was in a strait and crediting the board with the best intentions." "Each member of the force takes her turn at the reference and issuing departments; it often happens that these rooms are overflowing, at which time every cataloger is needed to take care of the crowd. The increase in circulation and the added service entailed have seriously interfered with the progress of cataloging, and it has been found impossible to make time for the needed inventory of the library."

During the year the collection of antique casts made, at a cost of $10,500, for the Minneapolis Exposition was presented to the library; it has been placed in the vestibule and galleries of the building, and in it "the board can feel that it possesses a treasure in this kind such as few cities in America can parallel."

Dr. Hosmer speaks interestingly on the subject of novel-reading, and quotes Andrew Carnegie's praise of "Beside the bonnie briar-bush." That book was issued 1006 times during the year, a circulation exceeding that of any other volume. In order to lead people's minds more directly from fiction to other reading he has during the year delivered several addresses on the library and its use to the pupils of the various schools, and has spoken to teachers on German mediæval poetry. He now plans a series of art talks to the pupils of the four high schools and six free public historical lectures to be delivered in the chapel of the university, as the library has no lecture-hall.

*Minnesota, lib. commission for.* On Jan. 18 a bill was introduced into the state legislature by Representative Staples, providing for the establishment of a system of travelling libraries supported by the state and managed by a state library commission. The commission is to consist of three members appointed by the governor, with the president of the state university and the state superintendent of public instruction as *ex-officio* members. The commissioners are to be allowed travelling expenses, but no salaries. The bill appropriates $5000 for 1897, and $3000 annually thereafter.

*Nebraska, lib. commission for.* On Jan. 18 Representative Wimberley introduced into the state legislature a bill to create a public library commission that shall establish and have charge of free travelling libraries to be operated throughout the state.

*New Haven (Ct.) F. P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '96.) Added 4739; total 33,081. Issued, home use 243,219 (fict. 51.4%, juv. fict. 19.5%). New registration 6810; total registration 12,863. "This year for the first time a separate account was kept of the circulation of juvenile non-fiction; 16,000 volumes were circulated, a little over one-fourth of the total circulation of non-fiction. There is a slight increase in the percentage of adult fiction and a slight decrease in that of juvenile fiction."

Mr. Stetson says: "Over a year's experience in admitting the public to the shelves, in fact expecting patrons to select books from the shelves, although books are brought by the attendants when it is so requested, is sufficient to show that the public is much pleased, and disadvantages to the library are much less than was feared in some respects. The fear that much more room would be needed is unfounded, except as regards fiction. The loss of books has not been as large as might have been looked for. No larger force is necessary, on account of the labor required to keep books in order; what is gained in not having lists to look up can be spent in attending to the shelves. In my judgment the plan is a success, and so long as present conditions continue I think it should be continued in operation."

*New York F. C. L.* (17th rpt.) Added 13,688; total 93,681. Issued, home use 752,329 (fict. 308,062, juv. 223,767); hall use 24,395. New cardholders 13.860, total registration 81,523. Expenses $47,255.21. These statistics cover the six branches that make up the library's "plant."

Mr. Bostwick says: "During the year just passed the library has circulated, in round numbers, three-quarters of a million volumes, at a cost of little more than six cents a volume." The circulation, an increase of 97,878 over the previous year, is the largest in the history of the library; part of it is due to the establishment of a new branch at Bloomingdale (the sixth), but a chief factor in the increase has been found in "the present plan of putting current literature on the shelves as soon as published." "It has been found that many readers have been attracted by this, and that they will even ask to be transferred from one branch to another, where they fancy the new books are to be obtained a little earlier."

Mr. Bostwick recommends that a trial of the open-shelf system be made at one of the branches, preferably the Bloomingdale branch, also that the two-book system, now in operation at one branch, be extended to all the libraries.

The committee on ways and means recites the efforts that have been made to obtain added support for the library — efforts that have not proved very successful, despite the large public meeting held in behalf of the library in the spring. The library now ranks fourth in the United States in point of circulation, the Philadelphia Free Library taking third place.

*N. Y. P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* The library has issued the first (January) number of a monthly *Bulletin*, in which much interesting information concerning work accomplished and contemplated is made public. The bulletin (40 p. O.) opens with an "introductory statement" giving an historical outline of the founding of the library and of the origin of its three constituent corporations. The address presented by the trustees to the mayor in March, 1896, outlining the needs and proposed scope of the library follows, and the report of the director for 1896 cover the remaining 14 pages.

In the introductory statement the matter of a site is given consideration, and the present status is stated. It is, briefly, that the reservoir site on Fifth avenue, between 40th and 42d streets, has been selected by the trustees for the purpose; the selection was approved by the mayor, but the power to contract with the library authorities for the use of the site being vested in the Department of Public Parks, it was necessary to obtain a resolution from the board of aldermen placing the site under the control of that department before further negotiations could be carried on. This resolution was passed by the aldermen on Dec. 22, 1896, and signed by the mayor two days later; it contained the proviso that the reservoir should not be removed until the water-mains now in process of construction on Fifth avenue should be completed to 38th street, when its usefulness would be wholly at an end. "It still remains for the trustees to secure from the board of estimate and apportionment the proper authority for the removal of the reservoir, and then to enter into negotiations with the Department of Public Parks for a contract allowing the use of the reservoir site for the establishment of a library building."

Dr. Billings's report is a careful and detailed statement of the work accomplished at the libraries in 1896. Much progress has been made and is now making in the cataloging, work that had fallen much behind and was in a very unsatisfactory condition when the director took charge. On Dec. 31, 1896, the total number of volumes in the Astor building was 283,207; in the Lenox building, 109,577, making a total of 392,784. Of pamphlets there are in the Astor about 30,000, in the Lenox 39,159, making a total of 69,159. The number of duplicates is roughly estimated at 15,000.

In both Astor and Lenox the subject of classification and shelf-location will receive special attention this year. At present the fixed location is used in both libraries, and the scheme of classification is unsatisfactory. A subject catalog for the Astor is being made. At the beginning of 1896 the Lenox had one cataloger, the Astor two, "a force quite unable to deal with ordinary current accessions." There are now 16 catalogers employed, seven at the Lenox, cataloging the collection of local histories of counties and towns, and the remaining nine on duty in the Astor building. "There are now on hand at the Astor building about 25,000 books and pamphlets uncataloged, and at least 150,000 books and pamphlets which should be recataloged and classified in accordance with modern ideas. At the Lenox there are over 100,000 books and pamphlets waiting to be cataloged on a satisfactory plan. The usual form of accession-book is now being kept, but there are no accession-books for the volumes obtained prior to 1876."

Much shelving was added to the libraries in 1896, amounting to 5332 lineal feet in the Lenox and 4700 in the Astor building. A large part of the lower floor of the Astor Library, hitherto unemployed, has also been brought into use. The total number of current periodicals regularly received at the Astor Library last year was 1074, and 350 additions were ordered to begin with 1897. The number of readers in the Astor increased from 85,182 in 1895 to 96,260 in 1896, and the number of volumes consulted increased from 225,477 in 1895 to 236,513 in 1896. In the Lenox the number of readers increased from 9149 in 1895 to 13,228 in 1896, and the number of volumes used increased from 35,217 in 1895 to 55,692 in 1896. The greatest relative increase is in the department of American history, in which 10,711 volumes were called for in 1895 and 27,727 in 1896. The most notable addition of the year was the fine Emmett collection covering American revolutionary history. The list of accessions includes many notable features, one of special interest being the agreement made with the

American Bible Society, by which its valuable collection of Bibles, and books relating thereto, are to be deposited in the Lenox building and made available for the use of the public.

*Oakland (Cal.) F. P. L.* It has been decided to issue a monthly bulletin of accessions, special lists, etc., for free distribution.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* Under the recent rules established for the governing of the library, books may be drawn for home use by any citizen of the state, under very broad regulations, the board of library commissioners determining what books may and may not be circulated. State officers may draw books by giving a receipt for them, and citizens desiring the same privilege may obtain it on furnishing a satisfactory guarantee or by applying through the public library in their city. Books may be kept for two weeks and renewed for a like period, and all expenses connected with their issue are borne by the borrower. The library has started a travelling library system, by forming collections of 25 books which are sent to any person or persons applying for them, to be kept for one month, or for a longer period if desired. The only condition of their use is that express charges shall be paid by the borrower.

*Oregon, lib. legislation in.* A bill authorizing the establishment of free public libraries in incorporated cities and school districts has been prepared for introduction into the state legislature. It provides that the municipal authorities of any incorporated city or the school directors of any school district not within the limits of an incorporated city shall be authorized to submit to voters at regular municipal elections the question whether or not a tax shall be levied or collected, not to exceed one mill on the dollar, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining in such city or district free public libraries and reading-rooms, or purchasing books, purchasing or leasing buildings for library purposes, etc. "If a majority of the votes cast on such proposed tax shall be in favor thereof, the municipal authorities, or board of directors, shall be thereby authorized to levy and collect such tax, and expend the same as hereinafter provided. Whenever 10 per cent. of the legal voters of any city or school district shall petition for a tax for library and reading-room purposes, the municipal authorities, or board of directors, must submit the question to the legal voters, at the next election.". All m ney collected under the law shall be known as a "library fund" and used only for the purposes authorized. After the adoption of the act in a city of less than 20,000 inhabitants five library trustees shall be elected, at the same time and for similar terms as the other town officers; in a school district the school directors shall act as library trustees. In a city of more than 20,000 inhabitants one citizen from each ward shall be elected to constitute a board of trustees, and at each succeeding election a similar body shall be elected in the same way.

*Pawtucket (R. I.) F. P. L.* The library was reopened on Jan. 22, after having been closed for three weeks for a thorough cleaning and renovation. Besides installing additional electric lights and freshening the interior fittings, many of the books have been re-covered and some classes have been rearranged on the shelves. This is the first time the library has received so thorough a renovation.

*Pennsylvania, lib. legislation in.* A bill is to be introduced into the present state legislature asking for the appropriation of $20,000 for the establishment of a travelling library system. The Pennsylvania Library Club and the Western Pennsylvania Library Club have been chiefly instrumental in drafting the bill, and will urge its passage.

*Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg.* (Rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '95.) The additions for the year were 4882 v., and the total v. in the library is estimated at 122,004. In speaking of the new library building the librarian says "that it is better lighted and has more conveniences for study and reference than any similar building in the Union." He regrets that "the legislature in its wisdom did not see proper to provide for the printing of the dictionary catalog which is being made."

"A catalog, to be available in a reference library, must be printed; and it was my earnest wish that such a catalog would be issued by the state, which would be a credit thereto. Apart from this consideration, I may truly observe, that the safety really of a large library depends upon an accurate and truthful record of the volumes contained therein. The last catalog was made in 1873 and reprinted in 1877, and is useless for any reference whatever. Many of the books then in the library are not to be found, while the whole number was not one-third now comprising the library of the commonwealth."

The importance of a good public library act is urged, and for the furtherance of this object it is suggested that "the subject of a proper bill for enactment by the next legislature be referred to the attorney-general, superintendent of public instruction, and the state librarian." As in former reports, most of the space is taken up by the yearly list of additions to the library.

The recent fire in the capitol building happily did not reach the quarters of the library, which escaped wholly untouched. Among the departments destroyed, however, was the senate library, which contains a fine collection of rare old laws and documents, some of which were not duplicated in the state library, and the loss of which cannot be replaced.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The usual anniversary day celebration held at the library was this year fittingly observed on Franklin's birthday, Jan. 16. The annual dinner of the trustees was held at the University Club, and was followed by a public reception at the library, when Melvil Dewey spoke on library progress, and brief addresses were made by Mayor Warwick, Dr. Pepper, and others.

*Princeton, Ill. Watson P. L.* The library was reopened for the circulation of books on Dec. 8, 1896. Great satisfaction has been expressed by the public in the decided improvements made. The library-room, which was small and often crowded to its fullest capacity, has been enlarged to twice its former size and new standard shelving added. One end of the room has been devoted to reference-work, and the table and books have been speedily put into use. The library has been reclassified by the Dewey decimal system, and a card shelf-list and card catalog are being made. The work of reorganizing and cataloging is under the direction of Elizabeth P. Clarke, of Armour Library Class, '97.

*Revere (Mass.) P. L.* On Jan. 19 the Revere town-hall was nearly destroyed by fire, and the library, which occupied the upper story, was seriously damaged. All the town books and records were saved, and a part of the library's collection was sucessfully removed, but the loss is considerable. The library was insured for $1500.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* The St. Louis *Republic* of Jan. 17 contains an interesting article on the development and work of the library in its various branches. The following comparative statistics were given: v. in library Jan. 1, 1897, about 112,000; no. of persons registered since the library was made free 45,867; no. cards now in use (estimated) 36,000; v. issued for home reading during 1896, 506,596. In addition to this 51,409 v. and 186,749 periodicals were issued for use in the library. The issue for December, 1896, was 50,530, which is a gain of very nearly 50 % over December, 1895, and is six times the issue of February, 1894, the largest issue of the year just prior to the opening of the free library.

A first step toward securing an adequate library building for St. Louis was taken by the library board at a special meeting held Jan. 26, when the board adopted a bill, approved by Gen. J. W. Noble and Arthur Lee, that will be presented to the legislature asking authority to have presented to the people a proposition to increase the taxes for five years, so that a fund sufficient for the purpose may be accumulated. If the bill passes the matter will be submitted to voters at the spring election.

*San Francisco (Cal.) F. P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '96.) Added 5368; total 87,727. Issued 440,117 (fict. 30.42 %, juv. 17.10 %), of which 97,977 were issued from the four branch libraries. These figures include reference as well as home use; the home use of books from the main library was 203,987, the ref. use 138,153. Receipts $57,336.06; expenses $45,181.54.

The experiment of free access, tried at the Mission branch, has worked well.

*Seattle (Wash.) P. L.* The record of the library for 1896 is an encouraging one. Founded in 1890, it now contains about 13.500 v., the additions for the past year amounting to 1400 v. The average monthly circulation for 1896 was 10,000 as against 6500 in 1895, and there are now over 3500 borrowers. The income was $7300, with expenses of $8200. During the year free access to the shelves was inaugurated, and the system has worked well; a monthly printed bulletin was begun in November, and the "two-book" system, adopted earlier in the year, has been availed of by nearly one-third of the borrowers.

*Stratford (Ct.) P. L.* The dispute between the town selectmen and the library association has been settled by giving the former body representation in the library board. The town has for some time been contributing $800 towards the support of the library, but has not been fully represented in its management. A year ago the selectmen announced that they would withdraw support unless granted equal representation on the board of directors. The association will now ask the general assembly to amend the charter of the library so that hereafter it will have 22 members on its board of directors, half of whom will represent the association and the other half the town.

*Syracuse (N. Y.) Central L.* The annual report has just been issued. The total number of volumes now in the library is 31,145. Circulation for 1896 was 91,793 volumes, an increase of 81½ per cent. above the circulation of the last year in the high school building, the location previous to 1894. Reading-room statistics for the last six months show 18,392 visitors. The Sunday afternoon opening has proved so successful that it has become a permanent thing, the time being increased by one hour. During the week the circulating department closes at 9 p.m. instead of 8.

The librarian writes: "The crying need of the library is a children's reading-room. As I write, every seat in the reading-room is taken, several persons are standing, and more than half the readers are boys of the poorer classes — restless, of course. All departments are equally overcrowded. We hope for an appropriation to build an addition soon. Lists of new books are printed weekly in six local papers. A move toward branch libraries, though on a small scale, has been made in granting a selection of books to the Working Girls' Club of Cavalry Church, and another set, of children's books, to a home library. The home library movement has been inaugurated by the Central New York branch of Collegiate Alumnæ, and other libraries will be sent out from the central as fast as visitors are obtained."

*Tennessee State L., Nashville.* The report of the joint committee of the Senate and House recently appointed to investigate the state library has been presented to the legislature. The committee say: "As to the general condition of the library, we are gratified to be able to state that no state library could be in better condition or more attractively conducted, considering the limited means placed by the legislature at the disposal of the librarian. The books are kept clean and in their places, the office is run upon business principles, and at the same

time with the most invariable kindness upon the part of the state librarian and her assistant."

*Troy* (*N. Y.*) *Y. M. A. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1240; total not given. Issued, home use 56,282; ref. use 18,202. New registration 301; total borrowers 5204.

"A great increase in the number who will seek the privileges of the library may be expected to follow our removal to the Hart Memorial building, where greater and better facilities for study will be available, and where other inducements to use the library will be present."

*Univ. of Mich. L., Ann Arbor.* (Rpt.—year ending Oct. 1, '96.) Added, general l., 5356 v., 261 pm., 68 maps; total "exceeds 100,000." Total recorded use 133,515. Additions to medical l. were 643 v., 6 pm.; to law l. 259 v. In addition to the accessions noted the general library received during the year two valuable collections of books: the philosophical library of Prof. George S. Morris, of about 1100 volumes, presented by Mrs. Morris, and the Alpheus Felch historical library, of about 3500 volumes, bequeathed to the university by the Hon. Alpheus Felch. When these have been classified and bound they will be of great practical use.

"Of the readers in the reading-room 58% were men and 42% women. A registry to determine the character of readers was kept during the week ending March 14. From this it appeared that 96.80% were university students, 1.60% were high school students, 1.60% various persons."

*Walla Walla, Wash.* It is proposed to establish a free library in Walla Walla under an existing statute which provides that a library fund of $1000 must be raised before the library may be founded. The sum required, however, may exist either in money or in books. At present about $670 have been raised for the purpose.

*Warren* (*Pa.*) *F. P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 321; total 9444. Issued 36,456 (fict. 25,576, juv. 6474). Cardholders 1743. Receipts $1805.88; expenses $1548.87. The statistics of receipts and expenditures cover only those of the general fund.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* Mr. Green's report for 1896 on the construction of the building gives the following facts: "During the year the book-stacks have been completed, and most of the detail finishing of the interior has been completed; the work now in progress includes the construction of the book-carrying apparatus for service between the book-stacks, the public reading-room, and the capitol, construction of the pneumatic tube and private telephone lines to the capitol through the tunnel, adjusting and finishing of the wood-work of the table fixtures and desks in the public reading-room, placing the last of the door and window hardware, electric-lighting fixtures, plain painting and placing of the few remaining mural pictures and bronze figures, the bronze doors of the main entrance, construction of the fountain in the west approaches, and the planting of shrubs and dwarf trees in the grounds to complete their design. All of this work is rapidly drawing to a close, and the building will, without doubt, be entirely completed in every essential particular ready to be placed in the hands of its permanent custodian, for occupation and use, by the end of February, 1897."

As this report will probably be the last to be presented, Mr. Green devotes much space to a general history of the building from the time work was begun on it in 1889.

*Wilmington* (*Del.*) *Institute L.* A comparative table of circulation prepared by librarian Sewall shows an increase of 10,663 in the home use of books for 1896 over 1895. The figures for 1896 are 146,562; those for 1895 were 135,899. "Approximately speaking, one-half of this increase belongs to fiction, one-quarter to juvenile, and the other quarter to the other departments of the library. The registration of new borrowers during 1896 amounted to 1778, as against 1680 for 1895, an increase of 98. These figures show what any official or habitué of the library already knows, that not only are more people coming to the library than ever before, but that those who come are coming oftener."

*Woonsocket, R. I. Harris Institute L.* (Rpt.) Added 323; total 13,141. Issued 31,081 (fict. and juv. 20,933).

*FOREIGN.*

*Galt* (*Ontario, Can.*) *P. L.* The library was formally opened on the afternoon of Jan. 23. Its history dates back to 1835, when the town was but a straggling settlement, and when, on Jan. 9, the Galt Subscription and Circulating Library was formed, with a capital of £25, borrowed from a friend on the security of all of the members of the association. The library, contained in one or two pine bookcases, occupied for years the home of the librarian, that office for a considerable period being filled by a widow who carried on a little bakery and store in a two-story frame building. The book-shelves were in an upper room and were reached by an outside staircase, which was none too safe in wintry weather. The interest taken in the library may be judged from the fact that promptly on its organization 150 paying members were secured. In 1853 the old association became the Galt Mechanics' Institute, and for nearly 44 years after that it had a prosperous career. In 1896 the town council made provision for the housing of the library in its present attractive rooms in the new market building, and there is little doubt that within a year or so, when local finances permit, the library law of Ontario will be accepted, and the library will become a free public institution, supported by taxation.

*Montreal* (*Can.*) *P. L.* The library of the Château Ramezay, Montreal, rich in historical

and antiquarian lore, is now free to the public. Its central site, opposite the city hall, brings it directly to the attention of visitors from a distance. Château Ramezay is one of the most interesting buildings in America. It dates from 1705, when Claude de Ramezay, Sieur de Lagesse, governor of Montreal, built it as his residence. After his death it was used for a long time by La Compagnie des Indes as a warehouse for its furs. In 1770 it was once more adopted as the governor's official home. As such Sir Guy Carleton vacated it when the Continental army captured Montreal, an event which made the château the headquarters of Franklin, Chase, and Carroll, the commissioners charged with endeavoring to persuade the Canadians to cast in their lot with the thirteen revolted colonies. In the vault next the kitchen Franklin set up the first printing-press in Montreal, from which he struck off his manifestoes to the inhabitants. On the defeat of Montgomery at Quebec the governor for the third time assumed residence within its walls. From 1841 to 1849 it was the headquarters of the government of the united provinces of Canada, and in the council-room, still in excellent order, the cabinet meetings were held. On the removal of the seat of government from Montreal the château underwent many vicissitudes, until through the generosity of Mr. H. J. Tiffin it was recently handed over, with its contents, to the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society as trustee for the public. The château is filled with interesting portraits and relics of the early days of Canada; among the names it commemorates are many that won fame in the colonial history of the United States. The library starts work with about 10,000 v.

*South Africa.* Laurence, P. M. Public libraries in South Africa. (In *The Library*, Jan., p. 3–16.)

An interesting account of library affairs in South Africa; the writer has been chairman of the library committee of the Kimberley Public Library for 13 years. There are now 96 libraries in South Africa, of which the leading ones are in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, King William's Town, and Grahamstown. These five libraries contain 131.543 v.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Lehigh Univ. L., South Bethlehem, Pa.* Mrs. Coxe, widow of the late Eckley B. Coxe, has presented to the university the technical library of her husband, which includes the collection of Julius Wiesback, of Freiburg. It numbers about 8000 v.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* On Feb. 6 the announcement was made that John Nicholas Brown, of Providence, had given to the Providence Public Library Association, for the erection of a new building, the sum of $200,000. Further details of this magnificent gift will be given later.

## Librarians.

Biscoe, Miss Ellen D., of the New York State Library School, class of '96, has been elected librarian of the Eau Claire (Wis.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Louise Sutermeister.

Bolton, Charles Knowles. The engagement has been announced of Mr. C. K. Bolton, librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, to Miss Ethel Stanwood, daughter of Mr. Edward Stanwood, a trustee of the Brookline Public Library.

Bowerman, George Franklin (N. Y. State Library School, B.L.S. 1895), who, during the month of January, classified and cataloged the library of the Saturn Club, Buffalo, N. Y., accepted a position Feb. 1 as assistant in the New York State Library.

du Rieu, *Dr.* W. N., director of the University Library at Leyden, died December 21, 1896. Dr. du Rieu was born in Leyden, October 23, 1829, at which time his father was burgomaster of Leyden. In 1864 he was appointed amanuensis of the University Library. Two years later he was promoted to become conservator of manuscripts. In 1880 he became librarian and director of the library. As an authority on bibliographical and historical matters Dr. du Rieu was highly regarded abroad as well as in his native country. His best-known works are "Repertorium der verhandelingen en bijdragen betreffende de geschiedenis des vaderlands in mengelwerken en tijdschriften verschenen," "Register van acad. diss.," and "Album studiosorum." He also edited the correspondence of Christiaan Huygens, and was actively engaged in arranging to reproduce, by an autotype process, fac-similes of rare manuscripts, each to be furnished with critical and historical introductions. This work, of which the first volume—Codex Sarravianus-Colbertinus of the Old Testament — has just been issued, will no doubt suffer through the loss of its most enthusiastic projector and supporter.

Hickcox, John Howard, died suddenly from heart disease in Washington, D. C., January 30. Mr. Hickcox was born in Albany, N. Y., August 10, 1832. When quite young he became associated with the New York State Library, of which he was the assistant librarian from 1858 to 1864. After the war he removed to Washington, where, in 1874, he received an appointment in the Congressional Library. A few years after he resigned and set himself up in the second-hand book business. From the start he made a specialty of government publications, which led him, in 1885, to begin the publication of his "Monthly catalogue of United States publications," of which ten volumes have appeared, carrying the record down through 1894, though one or two numbers are yet to be published to complete the set. His efficient work in this direction led the editor of the "American Catalogue" to confide to Mr. Hickcox the compilation, on the plan already worked out in the volume for 1876–1884, of the appendixes to that catalog containing the list

of government publications in the succeeding volumes for 1884–1890 and 1890–1895. When F. A. Crandall assumed the duties of Superintendent of Documents he very wisely included Mr. Hickcox in his staff. But unfortunately Mr. Hickcox had been independent so long that he could not easily subordinate himself to the direction of others and shortly after his appointment he resigned the position. A month ago his only son, who had been his close and loved companion for years, died suddenly. Mr. Hickcox never recovered from the shock, and, much weakened, he succumbed suddenly to heart disease. Mr. Hickcox, besides his catalogues of government publications and numerous contributions to newpapers and reviews on historical and bibliographical subjects, wrote the following: "An historical account of American coinage," Albany, 1858, which at that time proved of great service to students of American history; "History of the bills of credit, or, paper currency of New York, from 1709 to 1789," Albany, 1865; and "A bibliography of the writings of Franklin Benjamin Hough, M.D.," Washington, 1886. By arrangement with Mr. Hickcox's widow his business will be continued at 906 M Street, Washington, by his old friend, G. A. Whitaker, formerly bookseller at 941 Penna. Ave. Mr. Hickcox's services to bibliography, especially in the line of government publications, were many and great, and his work will be held in honorable remembrance.

ROOD, Osna, for eight years cataloger at the Newberry Library, has joined the cataloging force of the Astor Library, New York.

## Cataloging and Classification.

The CLEVELAND (O.) P. L. has issued special reading lists, nos. 3 and 4, relating to Abraham Lincoln and George Washington; they are compiled by Margaret G. Pierce and are full and well arranged.

The FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has a reference list on George Washington.

GUILLAUME, C: E. The decimal classification of literature. (In *Science Gossip*, Jan., 1897, p. 208–209; tr. from *La Nature*.)

Mr. Dewey's classification is considered as "solely administrative," not scientific, and the author says that "Mr. Dewey, in his classification, shows more the habits of an engineer than a scholar."

NEWTON (*Mass.*) F. L. *Bulletin* no. 5: books added from October, 1895, to November, 1896. Newton, 1896. 73 p. l. O.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has an admirable reference list (no. 40) on William Wordsworth; it gives also a useful index to other reference lists published in 1896.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for January contains classed reading lists on Robert Browning, E. B. Browning, and Winter. In the December issue there was a four-page classed list on "Evolution."

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) L. *Bulletin* continues the "author list of juvenile books in the library," and adds a short list of "Tales of school and college life."

U.S. N.Y. STATE LIBRARY BULLETIN, Legislation, no. 7, December, 1896. Legislation by state in 1896: seventh annual comparative summary and index.

*FULL NAMES.*

"Mrs. Alexander." The Osterhout Free Library desires to correct the entry of "Mrs. Alexander's" full name in its catalog, from Mrs. Annie F. (Thomas) Hector to Mrs. Annie (French) Hector. The facts in the matter are briefly as follows: Some months since the Osterhout Library was asked the authority for the form given by it, which is adopted by but one other catalog, that of the Milwaukee Public Library. The matter was referred to Mrs. Alexander, who responded, giving her correct name as Annie (French) Hector. She was Annie French, and married Mr. Alexander Hector, dropping the maiden name after marriage. She wrote under her husband's first name as a pseudonym, and states that she wishes to be known in all catalogs as "Mrs. Alexander."

## Bibliography.

BINDINGS. The *Portfolio* for December, 1896, is devoted to Royal English bookbindings, by Cyril Davenport. There are many illustrations, some of them very fine.

CATALOGUE général des grands écrivains de toutes les littératures. Paris, librairie Gautier, 1896. 158 p. 8°, fr. 1.50.

CLASSICS. Mayor, Jos. B. Guide to the choice of classical books. New supplement (1879–1896). London: David Nutt, 1896. 25 + 128 p. 12°.

This book is a supplement to the work that was published in 1879, last edition in 1885. The portion "containing the list of authors is almost entirely confined to books published since 1878." Publishers and prices are given, the latter in terms of the country in which the book was published. The part of the book which is, perhaps, most helpful is that which is devoted to "help to the study of ancient authors." These helps are arranged alphabetically by subjects: Language, history, mythology, etc. The concluding part of the volume is devoted to serial lists, such as the well-known Teubner series of Greek and Latin classics, etc. The chief criticism against the work as a whole is that to the uninitiated many of the entries are too brief to be fully understood.

FINE ART. The annotated bibliography of Fine Art and Music by Russell Sturgis and Henry E. Krehbiel will be issued about March

25 by the Library Bureau for the American Library Association. In the scope and fulness of the notes prefixed to its successive parts, the reader and student will find aid thus far unexampled in any similar volume. Both contributors have had for years to answer many questions with regard to books. Every important question thus put receives its answer in the pages of this guide.

GEOLOGY. Darton, N. H. Catalog and index of contributions to North American geology, 1732–1891, U. S. Geological Survey bulletin, no. 127. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1897. 1045 p. 8°.

"The entries include a complete bibliographic list of articles under authors' names and analytical lists under localities by states, under formations by physiographic regions, and under a partial classification of 'geologic philosophy' in which the alphabetical order of headings is, for some unstated reason, abandoned. Under each subdivision the order of entries is by date of publication; but under each year titles often stand in accidental order, and this involves some inconvenience in such a subject as petrography, where the titles of a single year overrun a page column. Full references to place of publication are given only under the author's name. With so many leading lines it is very easy to run down any desired subject. Florida coral reefs, for example, will be found under Florida; under Pleistocene formation, Gulf region; under geologic philosophy, section coral reefs; and under various authors. Errors appear to be very rare, although one well-known name is repeatedly misprinted."—*N. Y. Eve. Post*, Feb. 1, '97.

JESUIT RELATIONS. The first volume of the "Jesuit relations," now in course of publication by the Burrows Bros. Co., of Cleveland, contains as an appendix interesting "bibliographical data" concerning the eight documents included in that volume. These are Lescarbot's report on "La conversion des sauvages," 1610; the "Lettre missive of Bertrand," 1610; three letters of Father P. Biard, 1611; letter of E. Massé, 1611, and two reports on the Canadian missions and Indians by Father Jouvency. Mention is made of the copies of each document known to be in existence, with reference to the various catalogs in which they are listed, and collations are given. The title-pages of the original documents are reproduced in fac-simile, or closely imitated.

SCLATER, P. L. Bibliography of the published writings of Philip Lutley Sclater, F.R.S., secretary of the Zoölogical Society of London; prepared under the direction of G. Brown Goode. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1896. (Smithsonian Institution, Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum, no. 49.) 136 p. O.

THE *Revue Internationale des Archives, des Bibliotheques et des Musées*, published since 1895 by H. Welter, Paris, announces that it will discontinue publication. It has, presumably, never received sufficient support from French libraries to put it upon a practicable commercial basis. Its short-lived existence recalls the fact that France possesses no distinctly library publication, as do England and Germany. While there are several French book journals of a semi-library character, there is no publication officially recognized as the organ of the French libraries.

SUMMER SCHOOLS. Bibliography of American summer schools. (In report of U. S. Commissioner of Education, 1894–95, v. 2, p. 1486.)

U. S. FISH COMMISSION. The report of the U. S. Commissioner for the year ending June 30, 1894, was published in 1896. It contains, p. 619–706, a list of papers published by the commission, arranged alphabetically by authors and followed by an index. 1934 publications are noted, and those out of print are indicated.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

*John Ackworth*, author of "Clog-shop chronicles," is the Rev. F. R. Smith.—*Library*, Jan., '97, p. 38.

*Sidney Grier*, author of some novels published by Blackwood, "is, I believe, Miss Hilda Gregg, a granddaughter of a bishop of Cork, who was long ago a popular preacher in Dublin."—S. ROBERTSON NICOLL, *in Bookman*, Feb. '97.

*Benjamin Swift*, author of "Nancy Noon," is the ps. of William R. Paterson.—*Bookbuyer*, Feb., '97, p. 26.

*Frederick Benton Williams*, ps. of Herbert E. Hamblen, author of "On many seas," published by Macmillan & Co.—*Authority of editor.*

## Humors and Blunders.

"A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME." Not long since a great news company ordered of a prominent jobber a set of the "Jesuit relations" as follows:

"Please send us
"1 Ruben Gold, by Teraites, vol. 1."

FROM A SALES CATALOG: Stirling, James H. Text-Book to Kant. The Critique of Poor Reason. 8vo. N. Y., 1882.

THE following are among some books asked for by public library readers, taken from a librarian's record of queer blunders: "Poetical poems, by Lalla Roohk"; "Black Beauty, a little book by Zola"; "The stinking minister"; "The stuck-up minister"; "From Jessie to Ernest"; "A book describing place where they keep leopards on Sandwich Islands"; "Round the red lamp chimney"; "Are there any Manxmans in"? "Dickens Tootpick papers"; "Any book telling where sheet iron is mined"; "Opening of the chestnut (Burr)"; "Abraham's nights."

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*Antiquités mexicaines*, publ. par Warden. 2 vol. ln-fol. d.-mar. 1836-44, av. 176 pl. col. 200 fr.
*Archives des Missions scientifiques.* Coll. compl. 1850-91. 33 vol., av. pl. Superbe état. 200 fr.
*Art de vérifier les dates.* Compl. en 44 v. in-8, cart. 1818-25. 150 fr.
BARONIUS. *Annales ecclesiastici.* 37 v. in.-4, rel. 1864-84. 330 fr.
*Bibl. de l'Ecole des Chartes.* Coll. bien compl., 1839-95. 55 v. 650 fr.
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BORGHESI, *Œuvres.* 9 t. en 10 vol. Paris, Imp. Nat. 180 fr.
*Bulletin du Bibliophile* (Techener). 1834-95. 55 vol. 200 fr.
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CAHIER et MARTIN. *Mélanges d'archéologie.* 4 vol. in-4, d.-rel. 1847-56. Rare. 400 fr.
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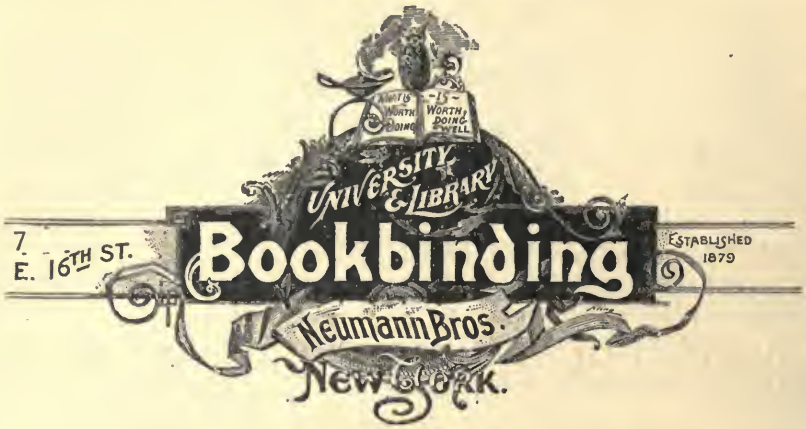


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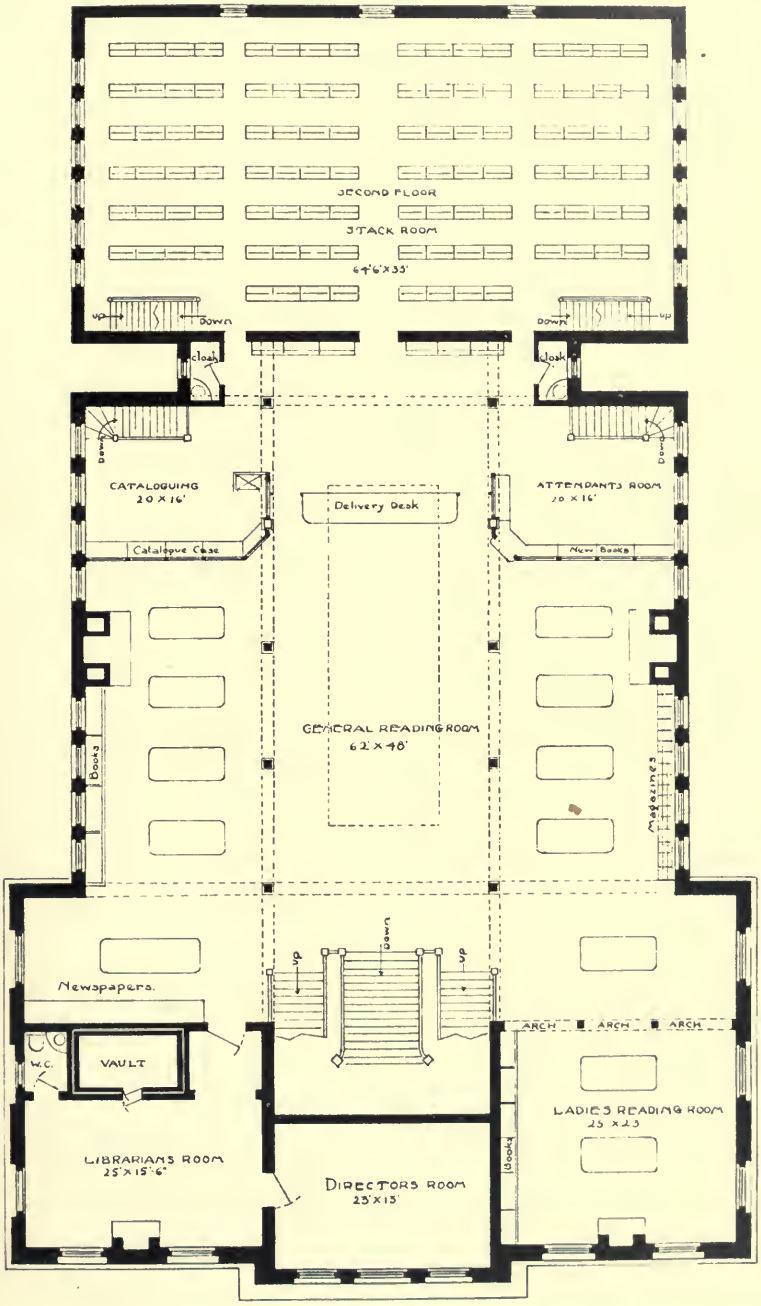


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VOL. 22. MARCH, 1897. No. 3

THE general appropriation bill approved Feb. 19 makes provision in detail for the Library of Congress and creates a specific division to be known as the Copyright Department. This subdivision of the work of the Library of Congress is in every respect desirable and should give opportunity for the effective reorganization of the copyright bureau. It is to be hoped that it will be practicable for the library authorities to consider plans by which the copyright office, without increase of its expenses, and indeed with some possibility of increased income, should be of auxiliary benefit to the libraries of the country. The copyright fees are 50 cents for entry and an additional 50 cents for a certificate of entry, and it is usual to enclose the full dollar instead of the half-dollar for the sake of getting such record. Why might not this record be printed in proper bibliographical shape on a standard card and be delivered in this shape to the copyright owner, while serving the additional purpose of a card catalog for the Library of Congress and permitting the sale of duplicates to the libraries throughout the country? Such a plan would not cover the full field of the printed catalog card now managed by the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., because it would not include imported books, but in other respects the field would be much widened and there would be many advantages in the plan.

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WHILE librarians have been doing their "level best" to stem the flood of the reading of fiction, particularly of the yellow-covered variety, and lead readers of trash into really helpful use of reading-time, their newspaper reading-rooms, by grace of "the new journalism," have been opposing, and more than counteracting, all their missionary efforts. This literature has taken in New York the curious local name of "yellow kid" literature, because an extraordinary caricature of a vulgar small boy dressed in "yaller" has been the rival hero of the two New York dailies which indulge most in "flash" sensationalism. It is gratifying that the expression of the better public opinion regarding this class of journals has been voiced by the library profession. The Newark Free Public Library took the step of excluding the two most notorious journals of this class from its reading-room, and suddenly it occurred to a number of librarians and library boards that this was what ought to have been done long ago. Several libraries have already fallen into line in following Mr. Hill's example, and while for the moment the result may be to advertise "the new journalism" — although no advertising can be so luridly pervasive as its own — the rebuke will doubtless have its effect. This movement is new evidence of the vital and far-reaching relations of the modern library spirit with modern life.

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THE removal from the shelves of the Allegheny Carnegie Library of a considerable number of works of second-rate fiction has awakened the usual amount of press comment and criticism. Mr. Stevenson, however, is well able to hold his own against his critics, and his reasons, which are printed elsewhere, are interesting and suggestive. In the Allegheny "Index expurgatorius" there are, nevertheless, some names to which even librarians may be tempted to offer an exception — notably E. P. Roe and "Marion Harland." It may be questioned if either of these writers ever produced anything that can be called literature, nor are their works of interest to persons of intellectual perception; but they are not hurtful — indeed their aggressive morality is one of their most disagreeable characteristics. Both also occupy a warm corner in the hearts of a multitude of readers, who have found in them a commonplace and harmless contentment, while among the writers whose works remain unbanned are a number whose influence must be conceded to be more directly towards sensationalism and false perspective. Indeed, in glancing over the fiction supplement of the Allegheny library, the question arises whether the old-fashioned trashy novel, with its sentimentality, didacticism, and high-flown language, is a sharmful in its influence as the latter-day school of "slum stories" and "keynote" fiction. There is no question of the literary skill and excellence of construction of many of these later books, and they may not be hurtful to the well-balanced

and mature mind; but for the average youth or young girl it seems fair to say that the tritest platitudes of "poor old Roe," to quote Miss Garland's witty defence, or the most tearful sentimentalities of Mrs. Holmes, are preferable to the imbruted vulgarity of "Maggie, a girl of the streets," the perverted hysteria of "A superfluous woman," or the morbid unpleasantness of "Celibates."

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ALMOST from the beginning of the A. L. A. in 1876 librarians have wished some better guide to the selection of fiction than the average book review. The plan for the establishment of such a guide devised by the Massachusetts Library Club, under which a committee of the club read the principal novels of the year and published a monthly "List of select fiction," has met with general approval from those who have made use of it. This would seem to show that such a list can be prepared with reasonable promptness, and that the decision of the selecting committee will be generally accepted. It is thought that the list can be ultimately made self-supporting through subscriptions, but for the present the work is beyond the unaided resources of the Massachusetts Library Club. Various methods of continuation have been suggested with which readers of the JOURNAL are familiar. The club, after a careful survey of the situation, has decided that the work of preparation had best be kept in its own hands. A widely separated corps of readers would lead to unavoidable delays and would make impossible one of the most useful features of the work, namely, the monthly meeting of readers when the books are informally discussed, thus maintaining a general interest that is impossible in solitary work and enabling the committee to keep to a more uniform standard. The club now asks for subscriptions from other associations, and its appeal is given elsewhere. Doubtless the sum necessary — $150 to $200 — could be secured from a few individuals, but it is thought preferable that a work of general usefulness should have a more general support, while the fact that an association contributes to the work is an advertisement of that work to all its members. It is to be hoped that all who are interested in the work will see that the state or local association of which they may be members gives its support to the project.

## Communications.

### *THE QUESTION OF INDEXES.*

THE Co-operation Committee of the A. L. A., has under consideration the possibility of securing the preparation of indexes to books which especially need good indexes, but have been published with a poor index or with none. I shall be glad to receive suggestions based on experience — but not necessarily in the language immediately resulting from such experience — as to books which most need this attention.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Chairman.*

### *INFORMATION AS TO MUSIC LIBRARIES WANTED.*

I AM anxious to make a complete list of libraries containing music, either for reference or circulation. Librarians of all such libraries who have not recently received a letter of inquiry regarding their music department from the New York State Library, would confer a favor by writing to me. MARY S. CUTLER.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY, March 5, 1897.

### *OPINIONS WANTED ON THE BROWNE CHARGING SYSTEM.*

WILL those libraries which have adopted the charging system described in LIBRARY JOURNAL, May, 1895, please send word to that effect and whether satisfactory or otherwise, to

NINA E. BROWNE.

BOSTON ATHENÆUM, Boston, Mass.

### *REINCORPORATION OF THE A. L. A.*

FOR one, I am opposed to the proposition to make the A. L. A. over into a government-supported institution, and an attachment to the Smithsonian Institution, with its Proceedings issued from the Government Printing Office, like those of the American Historical Association. The latter association considers itself fortunate when its Proceedings appear from that cave of gloom two years after the annual meeting therein reported. The A. L. A. is quite familiar with the experience of waiting six and eight months for its Conference number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL — through no fault, of course, of your staff, and of course through no fault of the unsalaried and otherwise busy recorder; but I submit that to treble or quadruple that hiatus would be more than the most patient among us could bear. The saving of expense, in the publication of our Conference proceedings, would be a small matter; a far more acceptable reform would be the expenditure of enough additional money to engage a professional editor to rush the Conference number to press, and give the result to us not later than three weeks after the close of the post-conference tour. This is an entirely practicable reform, which should surely be adopted at the Philadelphia Conference this year. MACKINAC.

## THE TRIALS OF THE LIBRARIAN.*

By Caroline H. Garland, *Dover (N. H.) Public Library.*

Well brought up people do not usually discuss family trials and grievances outside the immediate domestic circle. This privilege is generally reserved for the sanctity of the home and for the helplessness of the ear that cannot get away. Barrie makes Barbara say to the little minister, "It must be fine to be able to speak for a whole hour to people who can neither answer back nor go away." But while sometimes persons who can neither answer back nor go away are chosen as an audience when one elects to pour out the woes that afflict him to-day, the worries that annoyed him yesterday, and the troubles he expects to have to-morrow, more often it is, as to-day, persons in whom one counts on a sympathetic ear — who are rasped by the same causes, who are balked in the same aims, who ache in the same place.

That there must be great good experienced in the consideration of afflictions is probable, since so many excellent people do it. Surely a practice so widely supported should not be neglected by persons desiring to experience all the good things of life. Yet for us the opportunity does not often present itself. In the sacred and dignified counsels of the A. L. A., where not only brethren but strangers meet, it would be rank heresy to introduce so strictly a personal subject. But here, among this gathering of more nearly related people, just as New Englanders, the family, so to speak, one may be allowed to admit, indeed even to assert, with boldness and hardihood, that the path of the librarian is not at all times bestrewn with roses, but that there are in it very distinct and tangible trials.

There will be at the outset a difference of opinion as to the nature of trials. No two persons, however experienced in the detection of uncomfortable things, will exactly agree as to the reason of their discomfort. There is nothing else which demands nicer judgment and keener fairness of intention than a correct perception of what actually constitutes a trial. There are some excellent persons who, by very reason of their excellence and because of the intensity of their goodness and ardent aspirations, sigh because they have not more hands and feet to work with and that there are not more hours in a day; while others regret that they are not in positions of wider range, forgetting that the extension of one's horizon usually means simply the seeing of more, not different things, and that the country beyond is often very like the country near. So it is not limitations of that kind that have a place in any recital of woes, but rather those things which present themselves, often needlessly, to the experience of the well-meaning librarian, giving him annoyance, and demanding a consideration which seems out of proportion to their magnitude.

One affliction of this kind — and one which we have probably all met with and suffered from — is that whenever well-meaning friends wish to do the nice thing by their librarian they call him a walking encyclopædia. It is fortunate for whoever invented this phrase that his name is lost in obscurity. But oblivion is really much too kind a fate for him. Something in boiling oil would be more to his deserts. The phrase itself is an abomination to the ear and a terror to the imagination, but once applied, possesses a frightful tenacity of adhesiveness, which protests only serve to increase. The librarian may be by nature of light-hearted disposition, possibly with a tendency to joke. He loves his neighbor, and probably does the very things which draw this stigma upon him out of an abounding desire to do his whole duty by his fellow-man. But after the evil hour when some one in mistaken gratitude applies to him this monstrous appellation, life is changed. Thereafter his neighbors set him on a different level from themselves. They regard any small error on his part with pained astonishment. They bring their visitors from out of town to see him, and they brag a little on him right before him.

* Paper read at joint meeting of Connecticut Library Association with New England Library Associations, Hartford, Ct., Feb. 3, 1897.

They look askance at his light-heartedness and regard his jokes with suspicion; when they meet him on the street they hesitate to make nice every-day remarks about the weather, but cast about in their minds to recall the latest scientific work of which they have read the title, to ask him if it is in the library yet. And they simply will not let him go right along, doing his duty simply and straightforwardly to the best of his ability, asking only a fair field and no favors. This, I think, is a genuine trial.

Another difficulty is that you may lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink. This truth has been long established. Yet many a sanguine reformer, on large or small scale, regulates his conduct of life on the basis that all one has to do to insure the desired result is to show the duty that needs to be done to the person that should do it. A perennial surprise awaits this sanguine person, be he librarian, teacher, minister, or whatever. He sees again and again, in the language of the day, a failure to connect. This shock is not easy to rally from. He feels so sure of his own good intentions, so certain of the excellence of the end toward which he has worked, so positive that if the other man would but do what was expected of him, all would be well; and yet — the horse will not drink. If his hopefulness be only a surface thing, well enough as far as it goes, but not going very far or deep, the person who deliberately adopts as his calling leading horses to drink, or something so like it that it is not necessary to specify the difference, will recognize his limitation of capacity and consider that his responsibility ends there and then. But it is not the person who only recognizes things as they are, or the person who only looks forward to things as they should be, who has the true range of vision. It is the one who does both; and it is the person who, recognizing the fact that one cannot be made to do yet may be induced to want to do, that is best fitted to deal with his fellow-creatures.

This recognition of inability to compel leads the librarian then to a study of attraction, or perhaps more correctly, attractiveness. There is a mistaken notion that this quality is a gift of nature. This is no more true than that truthfulness or any other virtue is a gift of nature. It is true that nature may help or hinder. Undoubtedly some children, being courageous and straightforward by nature, find it more easy to tell the truth than others more timid. In like manner nature grants certain surface gifts to some people which make attractiveness more easy than to others, but the underlying principles of both virtues are acquired, are grown, are developed from a force within, and are equally a duty.

The wisdom of stimulating desire rather than relying on capacity becomes evident when one considers the deadly inertness of the mass which a librarian tries to reach. The tragic end resulting from a conflict of enthusiasm with this inertness is thus described by Kipling, and though he is speaking of the missionary in India it may not be amiss for the missionary in New England to hearken:

"It is not good for the Christian's health to hustle the Aryan brown,
For the Christian riles, and the Aryan smiles, and it weareth the Christian down;
And the end of the fight is a tombstone white, with the name of the late deceased,
And the epitaph drear, A fool lies here, who tries to hustle the East."

Another thing that often seems a trial is the impossibility of considering the public as a psychological whole. Humanity may not by us be regarded as an ocean, but rather as a pebbly shore, the coast-line of which may be studied in trend, but every atom of which has an invincible individuality. The standpoint of the public school is different. They are doing much there in the way of studying child as a whole. It is somewhat the fashion among smart writers to hold these efforts up to derision, and it must be confessed that many of the psychological terms lend themselves easily to purposes of ridicule on the part of flippant newspaper writers. But whether these jibes have or have not a basis of truth, it is a fact that teachers deal with youthful humanity in the bulk as librarians never can do. The teacher takes his apportionment of young life, already fitted up to a certain point, adds to it his own stint, and passes the group on to the next higher grade. The librarian is the teacher of an ungraded school — every person is individual, differentiated from any other person not only by acquirement, but by temperament and desire.

This would be an almost intolerable trial were it not that along this line lie also some of

the most-to-be desired opportunities. When Clark University was opened, a few years ago, there were 900 applicants for membership. Only 60 were received. This was partly because the requirements were high, but principally because it was not thought that more than this number could come into that personal contact with the instructors that was deemed the most to be desired in this work. A short time ago Princeton University called within its borders delegates from all the great institutions of learning in this and other countries and for a week devoted itself to masterly intellectual work. The interest of the week culminated in the sermon preached by the president of the university. He chose for his subject "Character-building."

Now nowhere in the world is the opportunity more open for the two things emphasized by these great institutions, character-building and personal contact, than in the daily life of the librarian in the moderate-sized New England town. This is not a new or original idea, but it will bear emphasizing, and will prove useful in the hours not unknown to many of us when we long for the supporting sense of a great thought.

Beside the difficulties that arise from one's dealings with the public there are others that come from the relations he sustains to those over him and to those under him in authority. But of the relations of the librarian and trustees enough has been already said in the meetings of the A. L. A. The trials that one may have with his assistants, however, opens a wide and fruitful field. When I undertook this paper, this was the side of the subject that appealed to me; but a little honest reflection convinced me that in all probability the trials a librarian may have with his assistants were as moonlight unto sunlight and as water unto wine compared with the trials an assistant may have with her librarian. So until an assistant shall have a chance to speak for her side I have decided not to speak for mine, but to omit that branch of the subject altogether.

All the tribulations thus far enumerated have their origin in things outside and cannot themselves be set aside or entirely removed, though they may sometimes be altered or even made use of by that person who has learned to

> "Grasp the skirts of happy chance,
> And breast the blows of circumstance."

But there is another set of afflictions which we have always with us. They lie down with us at night and alas! rise up with us in the morning. They lodge and abide with us. They come not from without, but are born within. When I was a little girl and was taken regularly to the Friday evening prayer-meeting, I remember often joining in one sing-song-ey verse, the truth of which has in later years been made clear by sorrowful experience. It runs thus:

> "But of all the foes we meet
> None so oft mislead our feet
> None betray us into sin
> Like the foes we have within."

Eugene Field makes known his consciousness of the same idea and remotely suggests its remedy in his small boy who has been "seeing fings at night,"

> "But when I hear the naughty boys that tempt me into sin,
> I try to sqush the tempter's voice that urges me within."

The troubles that come to a librarian for which he himself is responsible, though often unconsciously, usually arise from inadequate physical health, insufficient mental equipment, or temper. Health comes first, because without doubt the fault oftenest lies there. The head of a library, whether of a large library, where many different departments must be made to fit into one another and make one smoothly running whole, or of a small library, where the work becomes not only overseeing but actually doing, should keep himself in excellent physical condition.

The mental scientists have one good phrase. They say one should be not merely negatively but positively *well*. Perhaps some persons will think that the impersonal pronoun should here be changed, and one should say instead of the librarian he, the librarian she should look out for her health. There has long been conceded to women the weaker place in health. Howells in one of his books — I quote from memory — makes two of his characters discuss the changing relations of men and women in the business world; one speaks of the advance of woman in all lines of professional life, and of her positive superiority to men in certain lines of work.

"Yes," asserts the other, thoughtfully. "I don't know what would become of us men if women just didn't have nervous headaches."

Now there is just enough truth in this to

make it sting a little, but I have often wondered whether in the line of library work the matter were not more nearly even than we generally think. In looking over a group of library people I think an unbiassed person will find as many clear eyes, erect shoulders, and elastic footsteps among the women as among the men, and in my own experience the amount of time lost from not feeling well is as large among my masculine as among the feminine helpers, without counting in football. But disregarding the man or woman side, the subject of health is a most practical one to consider, for fully two-thirds of the things which are almost intolerable trials if one is partly ill do not ruffle one in the least if he is well. The first thing then to do to avoid needless trials is to achieve personal health, and this is possible if one remembers that the laws of health are like the laws of the jungle,—

"many and mighty are they,
But the head and the hoof of the law and the haunch and the hump is,—obey!"

From the physical to the mental is but a step, and allied to the evils that arise from an insufficiently nourished physical system are the difficulties based on inadequate mental action. In youth, when new sensations and emotions are chasing one another into his experience, one supposes that he is a mysterious and unique creation, probably unlike any other on the face of the earth; but that larger observation which may or may not come with a few years more of life will convince him that his mental nature is not more different from that of his neighbor than is his physical. He even learns to see that there are many ways in which the mental nature resembles the physical. It must be fed with the things which are at once nutritious and congenial. It must be trained to habitual correctness of attitude and carriage, and, especially, it must be used. Now few people will accuse librarians of having inactive minds; the very nature of their calling insures the reverse. But activity within the range of work is the outgrowth of necessity. That only is of value personally which is acquired in and of itself for the pleasure of the exercise. These two conditions are as dissimilar as the sluggish current of a canal, which makes useful all its force, and the singing fall of the full stream, which gives and to spare.

With the physical and the mental in good order, there is yet another thing to be looked out for. Drummond says that the peculiarity of ill-temper is that it is the vice of the virtuous. Years ago, when I received my appointment as librarian, one of my friends said: "Now that's all very well, but don't get cross." "Why should I get cross?" I asked. "Oh, I don't know," she said; "but they always do—librarians and cooks. I suppose it's because they have to get things just so."

Undoubtedly the habit of accuracy makes larger demands upon the temper than a form of life in which small errors may be tolerated, but on the other hand there are attending it larger compensations. It remains for the individual to learn to apply the balm of the compensation to the irritation rubbed up by constant effort. It is not probable that at the present time the public so often suffer from the effects of this irritation as does the person himself. It is part of library ethics now that unvarying courtesy shall prevail during business hours. Librarians themselves recognize that anything else is distinctly bad form. This restraint sometimes makes a person take out on himself what perhaps might be a relief to take out on other people, because he makes the mistake of curbing his ill-temper instead of eliminating it. Self-repression is better than nothing, but it is a far cry from that to self-control. It has never seemed to me that our thought was shielded from the knowledge of our fellow-men in order that safely and secretly one might indulge in reflections of impurity, or harshness, or severity, but rather that the processes of growth might be carried on in that stillness and quiet and freedom from interruption which Nature demands for her work. The development of sweetening qualities within one in no way interferes with that sturdy condemnation of wrong which is naturally associated with strength of moral character, nor does it militate against a healthy intolerance of poorly-done work; but their growth crowds away the elements that make up ill-temper just as the swelling bulb parts the earth from over itself.

For the cure, then, or at least the alleviation of trials, one will not try so much to control his circumstances as to control himself under circumstances. As a help toward this he will demand of himself health of body, activity of mind, sweetness of spirit. Is this much? Who wants less?

## WEEDING OUT FICTION IN THE CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY OF ALLEGHENY, PA.

By W: M. Stevenson, *Librarian.*

The exclusion of certain authors from the shelves of the Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa., has started the old fiction controversy afresh. For over a year the books of certain popular authors had been worn out but the people kept asking for them constantly.

When the supplement to the fiction list was issued last January it was thought advisable to print a list of authors whose works were worn out and which would not be replaced and to add some annotations by a reviewer for the New York *Nation* (taken from the "List of books for girls and women," by Augusta H. Leypoldt and George Iles), in order that the public might see how these authors are estimated by a competent critic and not think that the librarian was acting arbitrarily in the matter.

The local press pretty generally condemned the action and took particular offence at the shattering of that popular idol, Rev. E. P. Roe. But teachers and others concerned in the right training of the young commended the librarian's action, as was to be expected.

The list includes the novels of Horatio Alger, Jr., Mrs. C. M. Braeme ("Bertha M. Clay"), Martha Finley (Elsie books), May Agnes Fleming, C. A. Fosdick ("Harry Castlemon"), A. C. Gunter, Mary Jane Holmes, E: P. Roe, Mrs. E. D. E. (N.) Southworth, Mrs. M. V. (H.) Terhune ("Marion Harland") (in part), and Mrs. Augusta J. Evans Wilson. The reasons assigned for withdrawing these books are: First, their low rank in the literary scale; they are not immoral, but they are not literature. Secondly, the books are made of such poor paper, so badly bound, and so high in price in proportion to their value as reading, that the library's funds are utterly inadequate to supply the demand for them. Thirdly, the theory advanced by librarians of standing, that readers to whom books of this grade are supplied will gradually rise to something better, has proved in the six years' experience of this library absolutely false. To the young, who have no personal literary guides, it is particularly an injustice for the public library to put it in their power to acquire thus early in life a vitiated taste in their reading, a fault which long years of study may not suffice to correct. Fourthly, school principals have complained that many of their pupils were reading books of this grade to the gross neglect of their school studies.

The question may be properly asked, why some authors have been excluded and others of no greater merit retained? Why retain "Optic" and exclude Alger? Why retain the "Duchess" and exclude Mary Jane Holmes? The answer is that it is very difficult to draw the line between the fiction writers of the lower grade and that a number of authors who ought to be excluded have been retained simply because their books are made of a little better paper than that of the excluded books. As soon as these are worn out they will also be added to the "black list."

Readers of the Library journal may ask further the pertinent question, why the librarian of this library placed these books on the shelves in the first place? The answer is that after an experience of ten years as teacher he was satisfied that the only way to inculcate a fondness for good literature in the young is to give them nothing but good literature to read. But having had no library experience prior to his present appointment seven years ago, he was willing to defer to the opinion of such eminent librarians as the late Dr. Poole and F. B. Perkins. Dr. Poole says in his article on the "Organization and management of public libraries" ("Public libraries of the United States," page 476): "One of the primary objects of a public library is to furnish reading for all classes in the community, and reading which shall be adapted to their various capacities. The masses of the public have very little of literary culture, and it is the purpose of a public library to develop it by creating in them a habit of reading. As a rule people read books of a higher intellectual and moral standard than their own, and hence are benefited by reading. As their tastes improve they read better books. Books which are not adapted to their intellectual capacity they will not read. To meet, therefore, the varied wants of readers there must be on the shelves of the library books which persons of culture never read, although it is quite probable they did read such books in some stage of their mental

development. Judged from a critical standpoint, such books are feeble, rudimentary, and perhaps sensational; but they are higher in the scale of literary merit than the tastes of the people who seek them, and, like primers and first readers in the public schools, they fortunately lead to something better." Mr. F. B. Perkins, in the same volume, in his article on "How to make town libraries successful (p. 420), says: "The first mistake likely to be made in establishing a public library is choosing books of too thoughtful or solid a character. It is vain to go on the principle of collecting books that people ought to read, and afterwards trying to coax them to read them. The only practical method is to begin by supplying books that people want to read, and afterwards to do whatever shall be found possible to elevate their reading tastes and habits."

As Dr. Poole was librarian of the Chicago Public Library when he wrote the article, and as that institution contained nearly all the books recently withdrawn from this library, it is reasonable to infer that they came under the class described above as "feeble, rudimentary, and perhaps sentimental, which fortunately lead to something better." And as the Boston Public Library contains the works of Holmes, Roe, Southworth, etc. (see "Catalogue of English prose fiction," 1885), it is also fair to assume that books of this kind had Mr. Perkins's approval as the "books that people want to read." Members of the A. L. A. will remember Dr. Poole's witty remarks at the Chicago conference in 1893 when the subject of "Weeding out public libraries" was discussed, and how vigorously he opposed any such policy. He was evidently very democratic in his ideas of library management, and believed in the public taking care of itself in the matter of choosing its reading.

It may be added that at the opening of this library the books recently withdrawn were not on the original list of fiction selected by the librarian. He had followed closely the excellent list of Miss H. P. James, of the Osterhout Free Library, but the popular clamor for the old-time favorites was too strong to be withstood. A school library in this city and a proprietary library in Pittsburg had been supplying such books for many years and the public taste could not be easily changed. Moreover, members of the board of trustees said, "Above all things make the library popular."

Now, what has been the result? The theory of improved taste in reading has proved utterly false. The percentage of adult fiction has been rising steadily since the library opened, and that, too, in the face of the fact that the fiction supply has been greatly curtailed. Here are the figures for the six years: in 1891–1892 adult fiction, 56%; in 1892–1893, 60%; in 1893–1894, 63%; in 1894–1895, 67%; in 1895–1896, 67% plus; in 1896–1897 (11 months) 68%.

On the other hand, the juvenile fiction has steadily declined, as follows: 33%, 30%, 26%, 21%, 19%, and 17% for the eleven months of 1896–1897 just passed. This may be a hopeful sign if it means that the young are reading less fiction and more of other classes. Unfortunately no statistics have been kept of the percentage of juvenile reading in the non-fiction classes, but the well-worn appearance of the books indicates a decided increase in use. Combining the adult and juvenile fiction the percentages for the six years are as follows: 89, 90, 89, 88, 86, 84. These figures seem to indicate a slight improvement, but it is to be strongly suspected that the decline in the juvenile percentage means simply that as the juvenile supply of fiction was reduced the young have taken to the so-called adult fiction. The desk attendants have frequently reported that very young girls were reading nothing but Clay, Fleming, and Southworth. A prominent educator asked me recently if I knew of any way by which his daughter could be induced to read something else than story-books. I replied that that was the question that baffled librarians as well as parents. It was discovered here that boys in the public schools were running races in the reading of Alger and "Optic," one boy averaging a volume a day for several weeks.

Now that the supply of boys' books is made up chiefly of the writings of Henty, Fenn, Munroe, and the like, these books are almost as popular with the boys as ever the Alger or "Optic" books were. It is evident that as long as the vulgarizing books for the young are within their reach, they will prefer them to those which ennoble. There is still a good deal of the barbarian in the average boy, and the novel of blood and destruction is just what he takes to naturally. It is this barbarian element in the young which is the basis of strength of character, and which when properly trained develops some of the most admirable traits. Is it not the duty of the public library to supply boys with books which will make them wish to

be honorable citizens rather than cowboys or Indian killers?

The two-book rule has been in force in this library for almost a year, and school-cards allowing 10 volumes of non-fiction books at a time have also been in force for over six months, but the decline in the fiction percentage as a result of that is almost inappreciable.

In addition to the evidence of statistics I may say that I have taken pains to follow the reading of certain devotees of this kind of literature, fiction-fiends, as they might be called, and I have never yet discovered a case of improvement among adult readers. Once the habit is formed it seems as difficult to throw off as the opium habit. Of course, there are many cultivated people who have read in their youth trashy novels, but have they not attained to culture, not by virtue of such reading, but *in spite of it?* We hear a good deal about the overworked in large cities who need light fiction. But the most inveterate fiction-readers are among the idlest class in the community. Again the argument is used that as all classes are taxed for library purposes all classes of reading ought to be represented. But the fiction-readers for the most part are not heavy taxpayers, and even if they were the proportion of fiction in most public libraries is much larger than that of any other class of books.

In an article in the LIBRARY JOURNAL (v. 20, p. 342) on "Fiction in public libraries," by Mr. E. H. Woodruff, this library is represented as having (in 1891–92) the highest percentage (90) of fiction in the United States, and this was probably not far from the truth. It ought to be said, however, in justice to this library, that a good many books are classified as fiction that in other libraries are not so classified. Some libraries, like the Chicago and Los Angeles public libraries, do not count foreign and magazine fiction in the general fiction percentage, and thus their figures are really an underestimate. But even after making allowance of this kind the fiction percentage of this library, it must be admitted, has been too high. It must be borne in mind, however, that the reference use has been uncommonly large, some years more than one-half as much as the home use.

The theory that the character of a community is indicated by the percentage of fiction circulated from the public library does not seem to be well founded. If the character of the community counts for anything the city of Allegheny ought to have a low percentage of fiction circulated. It is the very heart of Presbyterianism in the United States. It is the seat of a time-honored and prosperous university, of three theological seminaries, much renowned in their respective denominations. It has excellent public and private schools. It has had a public school library for over 20 years. It is largely a residence city, with a large class of leisure and wealth. What better conditions for cultivating a high standard of reading! Salem is the oldest settlement in Massachusetts, and despite its witchcraft stain, is a town of noble traditions in literature and science, and yet the percentage of fiction circulated from the public library last year was 84.62 per cent. and the Boston Public Library prints no fiction percentage in its last report, leaving one to infer that it is too high to be a credit to that institution. Strange to say, some Western libraries make a much better showing in this regard than the older Eastern libraries. Is it not fair to conclude, then, that the percentage of fiction circulated in any given community will depend mainly on the quantity and quality supplied by the public library?

After all the fiction question remains the vital question for librarians. If the public library is not first and foremost an educational institution, it has no right to exist. If it exists for mere entertainment, and a low order of entertainment at that, it is simply a socialistic institution, and Goldwin Smith is right when he says, "Circulating libraries, maintained at the expense of the ratepayer, may fairly rank as socialistic, since people have no more right to novels than to theatre tickets out of the public taxes." ("Essays on questions of the day," p. 17.)

It is the fashion nowadays to blame all our social ills on democracy. No doubt the same causes that have produced democracy and are now tending ever more and more to expand it, tend also to a constant lowering of the standard of reading and with the march of democracy the fiction percentage in public libraries, unless checked, will grow still larger year by year. But there is to be seen in many quarters a tendency in the opposite direction. The A. L. A. catalog, the select and annotated lists of many libraries, and reading aids of all kinds are doing an excellent work, and many public libraries are in fact as well as in name true universities of the people.

## BOOKS OF 1896.—II.

### HISTORY.

Reviewed by J. N. Larned, Buffalo Library Buffalo, N. Y.

Adams, G: B. Growth of the French nation. Flood. $1.

As a book prepared for the Chautauqua series, this is necessarily a very condensed survey of French history, mainly to outline the political development of the nation; but it is competently and well done.

Andrews, C. M. Historical development of modern Europe. v. 1, 1815–1850. Putnam. $2.50.

The work by Prof. Andrews which this volume opens and which a second will finish is, in the best sense of the term, a study of history, to discover the bearing of events upon one another and to find their immediate and their final, their separate and their total, effects, as well as to detect the antecedent influences concealed in them. It is fairly open only to the criticism of Dr. Levermore in the *American Historical Review*, that it exhibits the political rather than the completely "historical" development of modern Europe, since religious, industrial, and literary movements are scarcely touched.

Andrews, E. B: History of the last quarter century in the U. S., 1870–1895. 2 v. Scribner. $6.

President Andrews has done much better work in this narrative of recent American events than in his disappointing two-volume general history of the United States. He has given us the annals of the last 25 years in what may be called the very best possible style of illustrated newspaper reporting. The story is animated and generally accurate. It is both interesting and valuable.

Ashton, J. When William IV. was king. Appleton. $3.50.

Mr. Ashton is a well-known, industrious compiler, who gleans in the British Museum for contemporary pictures and gossip to illustrate the manner of English life at different periods. His rather easily constructed books are always interesting and have a certain measure of instructive usefulness.

Barnes, Ja. Naval actions of the war of 1812. Harper. $4.50.

It would not be fair to compare this book with Mr. Roosevelt's "Naval war of 1812," for that is a genuine product of historical study, while Mr. Barnes has only compiled a series of slight sketches of the more notable sea-fights of the war; apparently to accompany a series of pictures in color, fancy-painted by Mr. Carleton T. Chapman. But Mr. Barnes's introductory chapter shows that he has performed his task with a very scanty general knowledge of the war.

Bigelow, Poulteney. History of the German struggle for liberty. 2 v. Harper. $5.

Mr. Bigelow has written his account of what is commonly called "the war of liberation," which ended in the overthrow of Napoleon I., with a very warm interest in the subject, and he has evidently studied it with no small thoroughness; but the study has not been that of a historian, in the true sense, nor is the writing that of a work which can abide in the literature of history. In a way it is interesting, but it has the indescribable newspaper tone which is fatal to a book. The fanciful illustrations help to lower the historical dignity of the work.

Channing, E., *and* Hart, A. B. Guide to the study of American history. Ginn. $2.15.

While this little book has been prepared especially for teachers, any student or any reader of American history who cares to be well guided will find it invaluable. It will show him how to direct his study or his reading to the best advantage, and it will assist his choice of topics, while it names and estimates for him the books from which he must select. The part in which method in teaching and study is discussed is most admirable. The bibliography is hardly less so, though stronger in some divisions than in others.

Coleridge, E. P. Res Romanæ. London, G. Bell & Son. 2*s*. 6*d*.

This is an exceedingly useful small manual or reference-book of Roman history, containing a multitude of lists, of emperors, colonies, roads, military and naval terms, important laws, and the like, with condensed dictionaries of geography and biography, historical allusions in Roman poetry, and varieties of information too numerous to be detailed here.

Eggleston, E. Beginners of a nation. Appleton. $1.50.

There is more than fair promise, in this first volume, of a work of really first-rate importance in American history. The aim of Dr. Eggleston is to write, not the annals of the United States, in the ordinary form of chronologized history, but an account of the life and character of the people, from the beginners of settlement and social organization in the several colonies down. The present instalment treats of the "Rise of the first English colony," "The Puritan migration," and the "Centrifugal forces in colony-planting." The chapter on Roger Williams in the last-named part is especially strong and interesting.

English, W. H. Conquest of the country northwest of the river Ohio, 1778–1783. Bowen-Merrill. $6.

This laborious work will greatly assist some future writer to prepare an adequate life of George Rogers Clarke and to narrate the conquest of the Old Northwest. It is a collection of valuable materials, unskilfully put together, and the style of writing lacks almost all good qualities.

Gerard, J. What was the gunpowder plot? Lond., Osgood, McIlvaine & Co. 6*s*.

Faith in the old story of "the gunpowder plot," which stands unquestioned in most English histories, is seriously shaken by the inquiries started in this book. Father Gerard shows many and strong reasons for concluding that the real plotter in the case was Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, the chief minister of James I., who contrived the conspiracy as a trap for the Catholics, whom he treacherously

inveigled into it. Some, who sold themselves as decoys, became victims grimly sacrificed. Suspicions to this effect were rife at an early day, but gradually died out. They are now effectively revived.

Gibbon, E. Decline and fall of the Roman empire; ed. by J. B. Bury. Macmillan. $2.

Gibbon's immortal work holds its supreme place; nothing new supersedes it; but time has brought enough of fresh discoveries in Roman and Byzantine history, even since Milman and Smith annotated the great narrative, to demand a new edition under careful editorship. Prof. Bury, historian of the later empire, is specially qualified for the much-needed work.

Janssen, J. History of the German people at close of the Middle Ages. v. 1, 2. Herder. *net*, $6.25.

This is a valuable study, from a Roman Catholic standpoint, of the condition of affairs and the state of feeling among the German people at the beginning of the Reformation movement.

Longstreet, *Gen.* Ja. From Manassas to Appomattox. Lippincott. $4.

Published 30 years after the ending of the civil war, General Longstreet's narrative of his experiences as a military leader in it, on the beaten side, is a more valuable contribution to history than it would have been if given earlier. He was one of the first to accept its results without reserve; he suffered obloquy, and time has vindicated him; he can write now with calmness of temper and with more clearness of vision than during the heat of either his military or his political fighting days.

McCurdy. History, prophecy, and the monuments. v. 2. Macmillan. $3.

It is probably safe to say that, for English readers, there is no other work yet written which sheds upon Jewish history so much of the side-light that has been opened within the last few years from the monuments and documents discovered in Egypt and the Asiatic Bible lands. Prof. McCurdy writes with large authoritative knowledge, and with the capacity of mind which comprehends history in its wider reaches.

March, Thos. History of the Paris Commune of 1871. Macmillan. $2.

Apparently a painstaking collection of facts, but uninterestingly written.

Marx, Karl. Revolution and counter-revolution; or, Germany in 1848. Scribner. $1.

This little book is a reprint of letters written to the New York *Tribune* in 1851–2 by Karl Marx from London. They are most interesting as showing with how sane and sound a judgment Marx looked at the revolutionary movements of 1848 in his own country, from which he had been already an exile for several years.

Morris, W. O'C. Ireland, 1494–1868. Cambridge Univ. Press. 6*s*.

Judge Morris is a civilian historian whose apparent ambition is to be a military critic, and who strives to look at history with the military eye. His view of causes and effects, and of the quieter forces and movements in human affairs, is apt to be obscured by the smoke of battles and the dust of armies on the march.

O'Brien, W. P. The great famine in Ireland. Lond., Downey. 10*s*. 6*d*.

A dry but useful collection of facts relating to the terrible famine and its after-consequences, largely from official sources.

Muir, Sir W. Mameluke or slave dynasty of Egypt, 1260–1517 A.D. Lond., Smith & E. 10*s*. 6*d*.

For an important period of Egyptian history this is the only book that will give much to an English reader.

Powell, W. H. The Fifth army corps (Army of the Potomac). Putnam. *net*, $7.50.

This does not compare favorably with the late General Walker's "History of the Second army corps" as a piece of military work, but it furnishes a valuable record of the great deeds and sufferings of one of the most famous of the lesser armies which made up the mighty Army of the Potomac.

Sloane, W. Life of Napoleon Bonaparte. v. 1–2. Century. *subs.*, *ea.*, $7.

A life of Napoleon which does justice to the phenomenal powers of the unscrupulous and vulgar adventurer, without encouraging admiration and hero worship, is a work to be greatly welcomed. Professor Sloane has studied thoroughly and written well, and his history puts all its predecessors on the same subject into the background. We may hope, perhaps, for a new edition of it, some day, in volumes of more manageable size, with non-historical pictures, drawn from the imagination of ambitious artists, dropped out.

Thwaites, R. G., *ed.* Jesuit relations. v. 1–2. Burrows. *ea.*, $3.50.

Unquestionably the most important historical publication of the year is that begun in two volumes of Mr. Thwaites's great collection of the "Jesuit relations and allied documents," with an English translation accompanying the original text. It is opening to all students and all readers the precious hidden mine from which Parkman extracted so much of his fascinating French-American and Huron-Iroquois history. Its effect will be to greatly increase the attention given to that attractive historical field, in which Mr. Thwaites has succeeded Mr. Parkman as the leader of research.

BIOGRAPHY.

Reviewed by Miss M. S. Cutler, N. Y. State Library. Divided into two classes: "The most valuable biographies" and "the most popular biographies," as follows:

*Some of the most valuable biographies of* 1896.

*Barrie.* Barrie, J. M. Margaret Ogilvy. Scribner. $1.25.

*Holmes.* Morse, J. T., *jr.* Life and letters of Oliver Wendell Holmes. 2 v. Houghton. $7.

Probably the most notable biography of the year, considering real value and general interest.

*Hutchinson.* Hosmer, J. K. Life of Thomas Hutchinson. Houghton. $4.

Counterpart to his Samuel Adams; this is the first careful life of Hutchinson that has been written.

*Jeanne d'Arc.* Lowell, F. C. Joan of Arc. Houghton. $2.

Prof. H. Morse Stephens says of it in the September *New World:* "Distinctly the best thing in the English language upon the life of the maid of Orleans."

*Richelieu.* Lodge, Richard. Richelieu. Macmillan. 75 c.

A distinct acquisition because it supplies the need of a good popular life of Richelieu. The *Bookman* calls it "almost a model of short biography."

Romanes, G: J: Life and letters. Longmans. $4.

Rossetti, D. G. Family letters; with a memoir by W: M. Rossetti. 2 v. Roberts. $6.50.

*Sheridan.* Rae, W: F. Sheridan. 2 v. Holt, $7.

*Washington.* Wilson, Woodrow. George Washington. Harper. $3.

*Popular biographies of* 1896.

*Brontë.* Shorter, C. K. Charlotte Brontë and her circle. Dodd. $2.50.

Clark, *Mrs.* M. C. My long life. Dodd. $2.

Field, *Mrs.* A. A. Authors and friends. Houghton. $1.50.

Similar in scope to J. T. Field's "Yesterdays with authors."

Lampson, F: Locker. My confidences. Scribner. $5.

*Lincoln.* Tarbell, I. M., *and* Davis, J. M. Early life of Abraham Lincoln. McClure. $1.

*Madison.* Goodwin, *Mrs.* M. W. Dolly Madison. Scribner. $1.25.

Mitchell, Maria. Life, letters, and journals. Lee. $1.

Navarro, *Mrs.* Mary Anderson de. A few memories. Harper. $2.50.

Renan, Ernest *and* Henriette. Brother and sister: a memoir and letters. Macmillan. $2.25.

*Roland.* Tarbell, I. M. Madame Roland. Scribner. $1.50.

The author had access to new material, and the book should perhaps take the place of Blind's "Madame Roland" in the "Catalog of the 'A. L. A.' Library."

Ward, *Mrs.* E. S. Phelps. Chapters from a life. Houghton. $1.50.

The village library buying only a few books would do well to combine a selection from the "valuable biographies of 1896" and "popular biographies of 1896." Hare's "Story of my life" should be added to the list; Oliphant's "Joan of Arc" should be omitted.

TRAVEL.

Reviewed by Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

There are certain books of travel published in 1896 which we need only mention — the names of the authors alone are a guarantee of their excellence or of a great demand. Such is Sir John Lubbock's "Scenery of Switzerland and causes to which it is due." [Macmillan. $1.50.] To be sure, this is almost purely scientific in its interest, so that it would probably by most libraries be classed with science rather than with travel or description. Stevenson's "In the South Seas" is another which there can be no doubt about. [Scribner. $1.50.] It is criticised as among the poorest of Stevenson's work, but even that is on a level with the best of most other travellers' achievements. Yriarte's "Venice," the new small-sized edition [Coates. $3] is another classic that cannot be left out.

Then there are a few books whose *subject* requires that we place them among the desirable ones for a library, such as Curtis's "Venezuela, a land where it's always summer." [Harper. $1.25.] The value of this is chiefly in its timeliness, and it is interesting reading but not of great importance to the student, being simply the collected and revised sketches of a newspaper correspondent. The appendix contains the correspondence of the United States and Great Britain down to November, 1895. Richard Harding Davis's "Three Gringos in Venezuela and Central America" [Harper. $1.50] is another book owing its interest largely to our present interest in Venezuela and in South American questions generally, though there is always a literary note in Mr. Davis's work that makes him good reading. The accuracy and fairness of the author have been criticised, but even granting the justice of the criticism, the book need not be spoiled for its purpose of recreative reading. Rowan and Ramsey's "Island of Cuba" [Holt. $1.25] is another of this class, and is compact with information and provided with a good index. The book has evidently been prepared for the use of students of the Cuban question.

Brehm's "From north pole to equator" [Scribner. $6] should perhaps have been included as one of those books whose admission must be taken for granted, since the author of the "Tierleben" is known to all librarians and lovers of natural history and recognized as one of the most interesting as well as accurate writers on his subject. The work is a compilation from his lectures and the illustrations are from original drawings. A list of similar works by other naturalist travellers is one of the valuable features of a very valuable book.

The rest of the books of travel included may be better noted under the names of the countries described.

*Japan:* Mrs. K. S. Baxter's "In bamboo lands" [Merriam. $2.50] is an unpretentious book, a plain tale of the experiences of a tourist in Japan, and like most unpretentious things will be found to have a place and fill a want. Her description of social life at the capital and ports is interesting and doubtless accurate.

Lafcadio Hearn's "Kokoro" [Houghton. $1.25], meaning "Heart," is full of the charm and attraction of the Japanese character, of which the author has so keen an appreciation. It may be compared with that other delightful book, Lowell's "Soul of the Far East."

Knapp's "Feudal and modern Japan" [2 v. Knight. $1.50] is a fascinating study of the

elements of Japanese character and the inner history of the race which culminated so unexpectedly a year or two ago in so sudden an outburst of power. The author lived in Japan two years and had access to the ms. material of much older residents. A chapter on "A Japanese library" deals with the literature of Japan. The illustrations in photogravure are excellent, and the book closes with a very useful classified bibliography.

*China:* Martin's "Cycle of Cathay" [Revell. $2] is the work of a man who has lived 60 years in north and south China as a missionary, and one cannot help seeing that his book is written more or less from an old-fashioned point of view. The subject is the Chinese in their social and political life, and the book contains much useful information.

*Italy:* Laurence Hutton's "Literary landmarks of Venice" [Harper. $1] is a reprint of his article in *Harper's Monthly*, and contains a great deal of information that cannot be found in ordinary guide-books, or indeed in any other one place. As an adjunct to Baedeker, it would make a very desirable travelling companion.

Robertson's "Through the Dolomites from Venice to Toblach" [Scribner. $3] is an account of the region betwen Italy and Austria, which the author asserts and proves to be full of historic interest. All the facts necessary for tourists' use are given, making the book a valuable guide to the region. In this respect it is better than Miss Amelia Edwards's book on the same subject, which besides is rather out of date, having been published in 1873, but in literary interest it cannot compare with Miss Edwards's work.

Vuillier's "Forgotten isles" [Appleton. $4.50], giving impressions of the Balearic Islands, Corsica, and Sardinia, has but recently been translated, but gives one the impression of a book written in the era of romantic travellers. The author's narrative of his personal experiences is interspersed with tales and legends told him in different places by the natives. It is easy reading, but I should say desirable chiefly from the fact that there is so little in English on the subject.

*England:* Miss Alice Brown's "By oak and thorn" [Houghton. $1.25] is a charming collection of sketches of English travel, permeated throughout by the keen sense of humor which those are familiar with who have read her stories.

Miss Dodd's "On the Broads" [Macmillan. $3] deals with the region around Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, one generally unknown to the American tourist, and the subject is delightfully treated.

Mrs. Dorr's "Cathedral pilgrimage" [Macmillan. 75 c.] is a pleasant series of sketches in compact form of the cathedrals of Wells, Salisbury, Winchester, Canterbury, Ely, Lincoln, York, and Durham. It might easily serve as a guide-book, so minute is it in description.

Rideing's "At Hawarden with Mr. Gladstone" [Crowell. $1] proves to contain also brief sketches of Queenstown, Yarmouth, the House of Commons, etc. Some of the papers are excellent word-pictures, and the book altogether is agreeable reading.

Mr. and Mrs. Ward's "Shakespeare's town and times" [Truslove. $3] does not claim to be a learned biography, but to present the facts and their own deductions separately, so that the latter may be taken or left; it claims also to conserve for us in the shape of excellent photogravure illustrations such remains of Shakespeare's Stratford as still exist, which alone would make it desirable for a library. It has a good index and a plan of the town and surroundings.

*Africa:* Chanler's "Through jungle and desert" [Macmillan. $5] would be wanted by most American libraries as one of the few records of American exploration of the "dark continent," even if it were not in itself an interesting book.

Loomis's "Eclipse party in Africa" [Roberts. $4.50] I have not been able to examine, but the name of Professor Loomis is a guarantee of the standing of the book, and all genuine records of scientific expeditions are desirable.

Traill's "From Cairo to the Soudan frontier" [Way. $1.50] is a reprint of a series of clever and witty sketches contributed to the London *Daily Telegraph*. The author, the English historian, gives the reader a comfortable impression of knowing all about the historic background of his travelling experiences without having to open his guide-book, which cannot be said of many travellers who publish their impressions.

*India:* "In India," by André Chevrillon, [Holt. $1.50] is a series of French impressionist pictures of Indian cities, by a writer who felt their atmosphere and is able to convey the feeling. Not at all a book of statistics or that sort of useful information, but very pleasurable reading.

Captain Younghusband's "Heart of a continent" [Scribner. $6] deals with Manchuria, the Gobi desert, the Himalayas, the Pamirs, and Chitral. The author, a member of the Indian staff corps and medallist of the Royal Geographical Society, disclaims a scientific equipment for travelling, but his fitness in other particulars, his keen powers of observation, his enjoyment in the telling, his simplicity and frankness, make him an admirable narrator and his book good reading for those who enjoy accounts of personal adventure.

*North America:* Warburton Pike's "Through the sub-Arctic forest" [Arnold. $4] is interesting, as is Whitney's "Barren grounds," to the sportsman chiefly, though his accounts of the country and the people are sufficiently interesting to the general reader also.

Mrs. A. M. Earle's "Colonial days in old New York" [Scribner. $1.25] is really of the social historical order rather than a book of travel, but is full of fascinating out-of-the-way lore.

Lieutenant Greely's "Handbook of Arctic discoveries" [Roberts. $1] is hardly a book of travel, but is worth having as a very careful compilation to date of all that has been done in the way of Arctic discovery, barring Nansen's

recent explorations. It contains maps and a good bibliography.

Wright and Upham's "Greenland icefields" [Appleton. $2] is a scientific account of the voyage of the unfortunate *Miranda*. The two professors made the most of their brief stay in Greenland, and the book is packed with information on the geology, flora, and fauna of the country and the life of the inhabitants.

Whitney's "On snow-shoes to the barren grounds" [Harper. $3.50] appeared in *Harper's Monthly*; it is first of all a book for the sportsman, but is also interesting in its description of the British American wilderness.

Wilcox's "Camping in the Canadian Rockies" [Putnam. $4] is a book for mountain-climbers primarily, though the camper whose fad is photography and he whose hobby is exploring will find the book equally satisfactory — one of the best descriptions of the region.

Skinner's "Myths and legends of our own land" [2 v. Lippincott. $3] is a book to fill a want. The wonder grows as one reads that no such collection had ever been made before, and one suffers the want even in retrospect. It has not a suitable index, however.

*Spain:* Jaccaci's "On the trail of Don Quixote" [Scribner. $2.50], though of special present interest, would be welcome at any time. With the artist Vierge, who furnishes the illustrations, the author, himself an artist, travelled over a path unknown to tourists, finding a country in which things have remained "practically unchanged since the time of Cervantes."

Taylor's "Land of the castanet" [Stone. $1.25] is a pleasantly written, rather superficial record of travel, but up to date as to the relations between Spain and the United States, the author having sounded the feelings of the Spaniards he met on this subject.

Mrs. Moulton's "Lazy tours in Spain and elsewhere" [Roberts. $1.50] seem to be chiefly Elsewhere. A series of impressions by one in search of health and pleasure rather than of facts. Easy, agreeable reading.

*France:* Theuriet's "Rustic life in France" [Crowell. $2.50] is illustrated by L'hermitte, the French painter, and both text and illustrations seem to have been a labor of love. The book is an effort to preserve for posterity the life of the French peasant, before railways and commerce shall have entirely invaded his domain and made him like every one else. It is a charming study.

*Miscellaneous:* Mrs. Macquoid's "In the volcanic Eifel" [Dodd. $3] deals with the German country between the Rhine and the Moselle from Remagen to Treves. It contains explicit directions for tourists in addition to a good description of the country, which seems to be a most curious one.

Russell's "Edge of the orient" [Scribner. $2] is an account of experiences in Dalmatia and Montenegro; the latter country having suddenly become interesting again through its alliance with Italy, this part of the book has especial interest.

Steele's "Voyage to Viking-land" [Estes. $2] is a record of the average tourist trip to Sweden and Norway. The principal virtue of the tale is that it is told with such evident enjoyment in the reminiscence.

FICTION.

Reviewed by Miss Helen E. Haines, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York.

It is to be feared that a person who has always delighted in novels, and who has read a great many more than library authorities would approve, is not a proper person to present the subject of fiction to a gathering of librarians, who as a class sternly reprobate the reading of novels and yearn to see mankind, and especially womankind, following the straight and narrow path that is lined with Buckle's "History of civilization," Reid's "Intellectual powers of man," and their congeners. So it is with some hesitation that I confess to having read 43 of the 81 novels listed for discussion, besides a number that are not included in the list, though of the total read but 25 are here reviewed. The selection of those chosen has not been based wholly upon popularity, which generally proves a bad thing to trust to; some of the worst novels of the year are those that have been much talked about and widely sold. It does not include the "keynote" fiction and its ilk — the morbid and unsavory pessimism that is not and cannot be attractive to a healthy mind. It excludes also the so-called "slum" stories that have been a striking feature of the past year — books telling of the vice and misery and sadness to be found in great cities, and that are about as depressing and demoralizing as a course of reading in the "new journalism." Barring these, the endeavor has been to choose books that stand out above the rank and file by reason of originality, vitality, excellence of purpose, grace of style, or simply as all-around good stories. Last of all, the selection is essentially a personal one, and every one who considers it will promptly rearrange it to suit his or her own personality, for in novel-reading a never-ending fascination is the impossibility of ever agreeing long with any one else.

The novels chosen have been divided into three classes. First, those I should place in the first rank of the fiction of 1896; second, what may be called the second-best; and third, several books that have had praise and popularity but that I do not include among the best fiction of the year.

I.

Barrie's "Sentimental Tommy" [Scribner. $1.50] takes rank in the first division, and this is not because of the present craze for Scottish fiction, but because the book has the permanent elements of life and reality. It is instinct with vitality, alive with varying emotions, truly pathetic — witness the whole story of little Grizel — bubbling with fun; and it possesses indisputably the "human" element. As for Tommy himself, the boy who always found a "w'y" to accomplish the impossible, the mor-

al chameleon reflecting every shade and mood of his surroundings and associates, yet deceiving himself more absolutely than he deceived his observers — is he not one of the most astonishing and delightful creations of fiction?

"King Noanett," by F. J. Stimson [Lamson. $2] has been called a new "Lorna Doone." It is not that, but it is one of the most charming books of the year, with a delicate, poetic grace and a depth of true and lovely sentiment. The story is set in the early days of Virginia and the Massachusetts Bay colony, and it gives graphic pictures of the life and spirit of the time in town and country, inwoven with an idyllic romance of the love of two good men for each other and for a woman. The description of the selling of the "redemptioners," or indentured slaves, and of the women and girls shipped for wives to the Virginia colonists, and the glimpse of the treatment of testifying Quakers are particularly vivid, and the historic atmosphere is excellently sustained.

Mrs. Ward's "Sir George Tressady" [Macmillan. 2 v., $2] does not, perhaps, rank with "Marcella" in depth of interest, at least to American readers, but it is a noble book, full of high ideals and earnest thought. The book is largely a record of the development of a man's character from brilliant, cold superficiality to real earnestness of purpose and a striving for what is right, through the influence of a noble woman. But, more than that, it is a novel of married life: what it may be contrasted with what it too often is. In Marcella Maxwell and her husband we have one side of the shield; in George and Letty Tressady the other, and in both pictures — the absolute trust and affection that nothing can weaken; the mutual differences in hopes, thoughts, and character that nothing can wholly reconcile, there is a breadth of truth and an exactness of perception that are indeed remarkable.

Stevenson's "Weir of Hermiston" [Scribner. $1.50] is one of the notable books of the year. There is something most pathetic in this magnificent fragment, that promised to rival in power and skill anything he had previously produced, and in which he seemed to be about to try his hand for the first time at the depiction of a woman's character. "Weir of Hermiston" must rank with "Denis Duval" and "Edwin Drood" as a fragment from the hand of a master, shadowing forth an harmonious whole that can never be realized.

Stevenson's name brings up that of the other great writer whose work has ended, and whose latest book appeared almost at the same time that his death came to grieve the English-speaking world. William Morris is first of all a poet, whether his poetry be couched in verse or prose, and throughout his wealth of imagination, his beautiful imagery, and his picturesque traditionary themes there is ever an undercurrent of spiritual allegory. Such a work as "The well at the world's end" [Longmans. 2 v., $7.50] seems amid modern fiction almost as Chaucer or Spenser would appear in the poetry of the day. It is not meant to be read in trolley cars, nor in hasty luncheon intervals, nor to be dipped into for five minutes after skimming the daily paper. It is for the real leisure time, for the vacation days, away from bricks and mortar and the rush for bread and butter. Take "The well at the world's end" and read it in the quiet summer days, out in the green world of nature, and you will feel its beauty and its nobility and its poetry as you can feel them in no other way.

Now we take a long step from the spiritual to the earthly, and, remembering the book discussion session at Cleveland, it is with some trepidation that I present Harold Frederic's "Damnation of Theron Ware" [Stone. $1.50]; but in a selection of the best fiction of 1896 I do not see how it can be omitted. This story of the rapid moral degeneration of a young minister is not literature for the Young Person, but it is not to be classed with the "keynote" fiction. It does not make moral weakness attractive or pitiful, but hateful, and it has a strength and individuality not to be ignored. There is what seems to me a misconception about this book that I want to mention. It is often described as portraying the pathetic downfall of a man through the lures of wily tempters. Instead of that, it shows a man whose heart was rotten at the core, but surrounded by a crust of conventionality and seeming fairness. When this crust is touched by the first breath of temptation it is broken down, and it reveals only the badness that was before hidden.

Gilbert Parker's "The seats of the mighty" [Appleton. $1.50] must rank as one of the best historical novels of the year. It tells of the struggle on the Canadian frontier that culminated in the fall of Quebec, and its historical setting is excellent. The story is often overburdened with style, and interest flags now and then, but there are many stirring scenes, and the fortunes of the brave and unlucky Robert Stobo, the fair Alixe, and the villanous Doltaire, do not lack excitement and variety.

Another historical novel out of the common run is "The Reds of the Midi," by Felix Gras. [Appleton. $1.] It is a story of that Marseillaise battalion that marched to Paris in the early days of the Terror, burning with an enthusiasm for liberty purer than that of their fellow-revolutionists, and it is one of the few books that tell of the French Revolution from the side of the people.

Foremost among the most striking novels of the year is "Quo vadis," a story of th edays of Nero, by Henryk Sienkiewicz, the Polish novelist. [Little. $2.] It is not a good book for young people, and its length and general appearance would be apt to discourage them at first sight, but it is a wonderful picture of the corruption of Nero's court, of the Rome of that day, and of the dawning triumph of Christianity, though it reeks too strongly of torture and slaughter to be agreeable reading. It should be a "restricted" book, but it should be in all fair-sized libraries.

"Nephelé," by F. W. Bourdillon [New Amsterdam. $1], is absolutely different from any of the books named. It has not had much recognition, but it seemed to me one of the most graceful and charming of stories. Its author wrote the song "The night has a thousand eyes," and the book is really more a prose poem than a novel. It is a story of spiritual affinity, reminiscent of Du Maurier's "Peter Ibbetson" and Kipling's "Brushwood boy"; it is permeated with an intense love of music, and it has a delicacy of touch and a grace of expression that are as charming as they are unusual.

"A king and a few dukes" [Putnam. $1.25] was the fantasia with which Robert W. Chambers followed up his striking story, "The red republic." It is not to be taken seriously; but it is one of the most original of the year's books, light and sparkling, fantastically sarcastic, and abounding in really beautiful descriptions of nature. It is set among the Caspian mountains, and tells of the revolutions and counter-revolutions of one of the little Balkan kingdoms that are always oversetting their rulers and turning things topsy-turvy; and in verve and wit it is somewhat akin to "The prisoner of Zenda."

Two volumes of short stories also take place in the front rank. They are "Earth's enigmas," by Charles G. D. Roberts [Lamson. $1.25], a collection of Canadian tales full of originality and clothed in poetic language; and "The cat and the cherub" [Century. $1.50], the sheaf of remarkable stories of Chinatown and other places that Chester Bailey Fernald first contributed to the *Century*. The "cherub" is one of the most delightful of Chinese babies, and the stories are as original as they are brilliant and amusing.

II.

The books in the second division may be briefly listed as follows:

Bunner, H. C. Love in old cloathes, and other stories. Scribner. $1.50.

The title story is a delightful little love-tale, clothed in quaint archaic diction, and all the stories in the pretty book are capital, full of quick perception, sentiment, and fun.

Crawford, F. Marion. Taquisara. 2 v. Macmillan. $2.

Crawford is usually to be found in the front rank, but "Taquisara," though it must be classed as a leading book of the year, is below what is to be expected from him. It is an Italian story of self-sacrificing love; but it is poor in construction and indubitably padded. Cut down to half its length it would be a far better book.

Crockett, S. R. Cleg Kelly, Arab of the city. Appleton. $1.50.

A story of a Scotch street-Arab's ascent to respectability; often pathetic, oftener amusing, and rich in quaint types, but very uneven and without much depth.

Doyle, A. Conan. Exploits of Brigadier Gerard. Appleton. $1.50.

A capital book of the adventures of one of Napoleon's bold fighters, who is delightfully Gallic in his unconscious bravado, his impulsive sentiment, and his grandiloquent courage.

Jewett, S. O. The country of the pointed firs. Houghton. $1.25.

A volume of delicate water-color sketches of a little Maine hamlet.

Macleod, Fiona. Green fire. Harper. $1.25.

A glowing Celtic romance, its rapid action often impeded by a superfluity of language.

Macmanus, L. Silk of the kine. Harper. $1.

A novel that deserves more notice than has come to it. It is a story of Ireland in the days when Cromwell's hand lay heavy upon the land. It is quite breathless in its rapid movement and unflagging interest, and it forms a series of vivid and generally accurate historical pictures.

Watson, J: Kate Carnegie. Dodd. $1.50.

The novel wherein lovers of "The bonnie brier bush" hoped to find their joyful expectations realized, but which turned out to be rather a dull thread of plot on which were strung many bits of Drumtochty life and character; excellent but not up to the "brier bush" standard.

Wiggin, *Mrs.* Kate D. Marm Lisa. Houghton. $1.

On the whole, excellent; for the transcendental and hysterical goodness of Mistress Mary and her fellow-workers is balanced by the fascinating personality of Mrs. S. Cora Grubb, the modern Mrs. Jellyby, "whose soul was always in a hired hall" and whose household tumbled up anyhow while she instructed reverential disciples in faith-healing, Buddhism, vegetarianism, theosophy, and a never-ending succession of mystic isms.

III.

In the "Debatable land" of Division III. are put the following:

Clemens, S. L. Personal recollections of Joan of Arc. Harper. $2.50.

A book that, to the reviewer at least, appeared exasperating in manner, out of touch with the spirit of the time and people it represents, and pitched in an impossible key. It has undoubtedly done good in making the heroic maid a real figure to many in whose minds she had been only a semi-myth, it is written in all earnestness, and it rises in parts to dramatic intensity; but the Sieur Louis de Conte is a Yankee, not a Gascon, and the whole story is out of perspective and out of drawing.

Smith, F. Hopkinson. Tom Grogan. Houghton. $1.50.

A story that its author tells us is founded on fact. Yet, notwithstanding, though it opens effectively and with promise, it seems sensational rather than dramatic, strained in effect, and often false to life.

Wilkins, Mary E. Madelon. Harper. $1.25.

Of this we may repeat what has been said of "Tom Grogan," that it seemed impossible in plot and sensational in action, and that it dealt with *characters*, not with men and women.

## "THE NEW JOURNALISM" IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

At the February meeting of the board of trustees of the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, it was decided to discontinue the library subscription to the New York *World* and the New York *Journal*, and to remove both papers from the library reading-room. This action was the result of unanimous agreement on the part of the trustees and the librarian that both the journals named were definitely harmful to the public on account of their morbid sensationalism and their exploitation of crime and immorality. In a short interview on the subject, printed in the New York *Sun* of Feb. 25, Mr. Hill and various members of the library board are quoted as expressing strongly their belief that the papers exerted a seriously injurious influence. As one member of the board put it: "The trustees of the Newark Free Public Library never will and never can perform a greater public service than when they decide to keep all further issues of the *World* and the *Journal* out of the library and to burn the copies already on hand. The only thing they should have done that they did not do was to bury the ashes, so that even those could do no more harm."

Mr. Hill says that his attention was first drawn to the fact that young boys were among the most devoted readers of these papers, and that on examination he thought them quite unfit for the reading-room.

The matter has been given considerable attention by the New York press, and comment has been uniformly favorable, though the Jersey City *News* regards the action as "simply asinine," and asserts that the *Herald* and the *Sun* are quite as harmful as the *World* and *Journal*, while the *Evening Post* is "more fatal to public morals than the breath of the upas is to life."

Public opinion concerning the matter is, however, even better evidenced by the prompt way in which a number of other libraries have followed the example set by Newark. The Free Library of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of New York, formerly known as the Apprentices' Library, has ordered the *World* and the *Journal* removed from their files; similar action has been taken by the library authorities of the New York Y. M. C. A. Library, the New York City Mission reading-room, Princeton Theological Seminary, the Century Club, Harvard Club, and N. Y. Yacht Club, of New York, and the Bridgeport (Ct.) Public Library; in the library of the Union League Club of New York the two journals have been removed from the reading-room and are held for reference use only; while the matter of discontinuing subscription to both the *World* and the *Journal* and removing them from the files is being considered by the authorities of the Aguilar Library and the Brooklyn Library. Among libraries where action similar to that at Newark had been previously taken, are the Plainfield (N. J.) Public Library, the Hartford (Ct.) Public Library, and the South Norwalk (Ct.) Public Library, in each of which the *World* was banished at the end of 1896; none of these libraries were subscribers to the *Journal*.

## PUBLIC DOCUMENTS IN THE 54TH CONGRESS.

During the two sessions of the 54th Congress 10 bills relating to public documents were presented, but two of which were of general library interest, and but one of which, the "Ames catalog bill," has become a law. This bill provides for the publication and preparation by Dr. J. G. Ames of a "Comprehensive index" similar to that compiled by him for the period 1889–1893, covering all publications of the government from 1881, the date of the Ben: Perley Poore catalog, to 1893, when Mr. Crandall's "Document catalogue" begins. It was introduced in the Senate, as S. R. 172, by Mr. Hansbrough, on Dec. 14, 1896, and on the next day in the House (H. R. 211) by Mr. Harmer. It was never reported on by the Senate committee on printing. The House committee reported it back and it passed, the joint resolution being signed by the President on March 3. The bill prepared by Mr. F. A. Crandall, superintendent of public documents, for improving the methods of printing and distributing the public documents, has unhappily failed to pass, and must be started afresh in the new Congress. This bill (H. R. 8237) was introduced by Mr. Perkins April 16, 1896. It was reported back by the committee on printing, May 7, 1896, and passed with some amendments, relating chiefly to the binding of the documents. The bill went to the Senate May 9, and was referred to the printing committee, by which it was never reported.

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## ORGANIZATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY, 1897–98.

The appropriations act, approved Feb. 19, contains the law providing for the management of the Congressional Library during 1897–98. It places the salary of the librarian, "to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," at $5000, and provides for the appointment by the librarian of a chief assistant librarian at $4000, an assistant librarian (superintendent of reading-room) at $3000, 12 assistants at from $900 to $1800, and 27 assistants, watchmen, etc., at from $720 to $900. In the cataloging department there will be a chief of department at $3000, and 16 assistants at from $900 to $1800 each; there will also be a superintendent of art gallery at $2000, and three assistants at $900 each; a superintendent of maps and charts at $2000, and two assistants at $900 each; superintendent of periodicals at $1500, and three attendants at $720 each; superintendent of manuscripts at $1500, and two indexers at $720 each; superintendent of music department at $1500, and three assistants at from $720 to $900; superintendent of congressional reference library at the capitol at $1500, and two assistants at $750 and $900 each; superintendent of law library at $2000, and two assistants at $1400 each; in all $92,020. The law establishes a copyright department in the library, and provides for the following officers, under the direction of the librarian of congress: Register of copyrights, at $3000, to

hold office on and after July 1, 1897; two clerks at $1800 each; two clerks at $1600 each; three clerks at $1400 each; 10 clerks at $1200 each; 10 clerks at $900 each; and two clerks at $720 each; in all $36,440.

For the purchase of books, etc., $11,000 are allowed, of which $4000 are for miscellaneous books, $1500 for law-books, $1500 for reference-books for the Supreme Court, $1500 for government exchanges, and for periodicals, serials, and newspapers, $3500. For contingent expenses $500 are allowed to the library and $500 to the copyright department.

The custody, care, and maintenance of the library building and grounds is put in charge of a superintendent, to be appointed by the President, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," at $5000, who shall have charge of all disbursements and the employment of all necessary employes, for which $51,440 are appropriated, besides $35,000 for fuel, lights, repairs, etc. This officer shall give bonds for $30,000. The act further provides that "the officer now in charge of the construction of the building [Mr. B. R. Green] is hereby authorized and directed to terminate his present duty and assume the custody, care, and maintenance of the said building and grounds on and after March 4, 1897, appoint the employes under his charge, procure necessary furniture for the said building, and remove into it the library." It is also directed that "the librarian of congress shall, on and after July 1, 1897, give bonds in the sum of $20,000 for the faithful discharge of his duties according to law."

## THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY HANDBOOK.*

Now that the Library of Congress is completed, its beauties of architecture and decoration have been a topic of general discussion and description in the press and in the leading periodicals. The issue of what may be called the official manual of the library is therefore especially welcome at this time, as giving in compact and attractive form all the essential data as to the library itself and its magnificent new home. This "Handbook of the Library of Congress" is similar in style and scope to the excellent "Handbook of the Boston Public Library" issued last year by the same publishers. Like that, it is compiled by Herbert Small, and is especially rich in illustrations of the representative decorations of the library building, while its arrangement has been so planned as to make it of service as an actual guide-book, the various features and departments being described as far as possible in the order in which they would appear to the visitor.

The description of the new building is prefaced by a short history of the library, which was founded in 1800, at about the same time that the seat of government was transferred to Washington. The small collection gathered during the first dozen years of its existence was, however, lost when the capitol was burned by the British troops in 1812, and the library really dates from that year, when Thomas Jefferson sold his private library of 6700 v. to the government for $23,700, thus establishing the nucleus of the present collection of some 700,000 books and 250,000 pamphlets. The history of the new building is briefly given, from the time the matter was first presented to Congress by Mr. Spofford in his report for 1872. The first act providing for the construction of the building passed Congress in April, 1886, but final legislation on the subject was not had until March, 1889. Eight years was the time allowed for construction and the total cost was set at $6,245,567.94. The building was completed in February of this year, well within the original time limit, and at about $140,000 below the limit of cost. Mr. Small describes clearly the plan of the building and the details of its arrangement; he then takes up severally the various special features of the exterior, the entrance pavilion, main entrance hall, rotunda, book-stacks, galleries, pavilions, reading and special rooms, corridors and basement, describing decorations of each and explaining their plan and characteristics. The book is descriptive and not critical, though Mr. Caffin's essay on "The architecture, sculpture, and painting" is a brief survey of the decorative features from the artistic point of view. The illustrations cover almost every detail of the beautiful structure, from the floor plan and the general exterior view, to the rotunda clock, the series of ethnological heads and the decorative features of staircase, corridors, and galleries. The future of the library in its new home is considered by Mr. Spofford, who in his essay on "The function of a national library" outlines the desirable lines of development and of growth. While the library should be in name and in fact a national library, it should be first of all a library for the use of Congress, and it should always remain a reference library. It should be the repository of all American publications, however ephemeral, and should aim especially at the collection of Americana, while it should also, as far as possible, be of universal range and of well-rounded completeness. For all these possibilities the new building offers the golden opportunity; it but remains to make the best and most far-sighted use of it.

* Handbook of the new Library of Congress in Washington; comp. by Herbert Small, with essays on the architecture, sculpture, and painting, by Charles Caffin, and on the function of a national library, by Ainsworth R. Spofford. Boston, Curtis & Cameron, 1897. 128 + 24 p. il. D. 30 c.; 50 c.

## THE BUFFALO FREE LIBRARY.

THE enabling act authorizing the city of Buffalo and the managers of the Buffalo Library to enter into a contract for the administration of the Buffalo Library as a free public library, supported by city appropriation, was introduced into the state legislature on Jan. 27, as already stated in the L. J. (Feb., p. 104). It passed the assembly on Feb. 3, and the senate on Feb. 4, was signed by Mayor Jewett, of Buffalo, on Feb. 10, and by Governor Black on

Feb. 13. On Feb. 15 the proposed contract was submitted to the common council by the committee in charge. It provides for the transfer to the city for 99 years, with privilege of renewal, of the library, consisting of about 84,000 books and 10,000 pamphlets, and its revenues, etc. The right is reserved by the library association to sell any of its real estate, excepting the library building, and to devote the proceeds to the payment of its debts and to use the income of anything remaining for the benefit of the free library. The contract provides that the city shall maintain the library and provide for its care, increase, and improvement, and shall make annual appropriation for the same. The library is to be managed by a board of 10 trustees, to consist of the president, vice-president, and three managers of the Buffalo Library, the mayor, corporation counsel, and the superintendent of education, who shall be members of the board, *ex-officio*, and two citizens who shall complete the board. The library is to be open 12 hours on week-days and 10 hours on Sundays and holidays. The cost of maintaining the library is set at $70,000 yearly. The contract was referred to the finance committee, and on Feb. 20 was approved by the aldermen; it was approved by the library authorities on Feb. 24, and on March 1 was finally signed by the mayor and the library trustees. It is hoped that by July the library may be opened to the public under the new arrangement.

## THE PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE new public library building of Peoria, Ill., was opened on Feb. 11. It is a three-story edifice, 76 feet front by 135 feet deep, in the middle of a block on Monroe st., nearly opposite the Government Building, and faces southeast, toward the river. The lot on which it stands is 108 feet front by 171 feet in depth. An alley at the rear gives an open space between the lot line and the building of 16 feet, and, most of the way, 21 feet, for light and air, and 36 feet in the rear for future extension of the stack-room. The choice of a location in the middle of a block rather than on a prominent corner was determined by several considerations — the cheaper cost of the land, the necessity of but one front instead of an expensive front on two streets, and greater freedom from the dust and noise of street traffic. Electric cars running to every part of the city pass within half a block on each side.

The accompanying view and plan (*see* frontispiece) show the external appearance and the internal arrangements of the building. It is an unpretentious, plain, substantial library building, planned more with a view to library uses than as a city ornament to show strangers. The lower story of the front part is of Lake Superior sandstone, the upper stories and the rear of read brick with stone trimmings, the roof of red tile.

In one respect the history of this library building is unique. In the spring of 1865 the Mercantile Library Association of Peoria raised the sum of $13,262.50 by subscriptions from 140 public-spirited citizens, with which they purchased property for a library. Through careful management and the advance in values this property was sold Dec., 1894, for enough to pay for the new library building, which was made a free gift to the city of Peoria, the city only paying for the ground on which it was erected — $16,000. Not a dollar from taxation went into the building, which cost under $70,000.

The building is larger than the present needs of the library require, in consequence of which the city school board is permitted to occupy the ground floor and the Peoria Art League, with its picture gallery, a part of the third floor, until wanted by the library.

The stack-room, which is practically fireproof, is 35 x 64 feet, five 7½-foot stories high, with a capacity for 200,000 v., which, by an extension to the alley, can be doubled at slight cost and without modifying the present plans.

A feature of the library that has attracted general attention is the artistic scheme of mural decoration planned and executed by two Chicago artists, F. C. Peyraud and H. G. Maratta. The Peoria library is said to be the first municipal building in the west to adopt such decoration, and the paintings have been described and discussed in the periodicals and daily press of Chicago, New York, and other cities. Most of the rooms in the building have been tinted simply in colors to harmonize with the woodwork and marble panelling, and the main decoration has been confined to the clerestory of the third floor. Here have been placed large allegorical paintings representing education in relation to the arts, which form one continuous series, set in arched panels and divided by bas-relief cartouches bearing appropriate inscriptions. The oval ceiling of the vestibule has also a symbolical painting, while on the wall back of the stairway are placed two pictures of direct local association; one an autumn landscape of the view to be had from Prospect Heights, Peoria; the other a local setting, in which is depicted the landing in 1673 of Père Marquette and Louis Joliet on the spot where Peoria now stands.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

### 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 21–25, 1897.

THE committee on program for the Philadelphia meeting of the American Library Association have, in conjunction with the Philadelphia local committee, so far perfected the arrangements for the Philadelphia meeting that they are able to announce the following preliminary program. As is already known the executive board, at their meeting in Philadelphia in De-

cember, decided to hold the annual meeting in Philadelphia, from the 21st to the 25th of June, inclusive.

PROGRAM.

June 21, Monday evening. — Social meeting at Historical Society.

June 22, Tuesday morning. — President's address; Reports of officers; Reports of committees, and other special reports.

June 22, Tuesday afternoon. — Library legislation; Public documents; Travelling libraries.

June 22, Tuesday evening. — Public meeting; Addresses by Dr. Wm. Pepper, Mr. Henry Howard Furness, Dr. Talcott Williams, Agnes Repplier, and others.

June 23, Wednesday morning. — Two programs will be provided, in different halls, one treating of college and advanced library work, the other dealing with elementary library practice.

June 23, Wednesday afternoon. — Ride to Wissahickon.

June 23, Wednesday evening. — Reception and organ concert at Drexel Institute.

June 24, Thursday morning. — Continuation of the program of Wednesday morning.

June 24, Thursday afternoon. — Books of the year; Meeting of Trustees' Section; Election of officers.

June 24, Thursday evening. — Addresses by an educator, a writer, and a librarian.

June 25, Friday morning. — Miscellaneous papers.

June 25, Friday afternoon. — Departure for European trip and American post-conference excursion.

It is thought best not to announce any names until all have been arranged for. We hope to present, not later than next month, a complete program. The work of making the arrangements in Philadelphia is in the hands of the local committee, of which Mr. Thomson, of the Free Libraries, is chairman. In addition to the announcements contained in the program, arrangements are substantially completed for an American post-conference excursion which will include a visit to the Delaware Water Gap.

WILLIAM H. BRETT, *President;*
RUTHERFORD P. HAYES, *Secretary;*
*Program Committee.*

*ENGLISH POST-CONFERENCE, JUNE 26–AUGUST 22, 1897.*

THE European trip committee has issued the following circular:

At the Cleveland Conference of the American Library Association an invitation to an international meeting in London in July, 1897, was received from the Library Association of the United Kingdom. This invitation was accepted and a committee appointed to make arrangements for the trip.

It is hoped and expected that there will be a large attendance of leading American librarians, trustees, and others engaged in library work. The following have already expressed an intention of attending the conference: Messrs. Justin Winsor, Melvil Dewey, Herbert Putnam, F. P. Hill, G. W. Cole, W. S. Biscoe, E. M. Barton, F. B. Gay, and Misses H. P. James, M. Francis, K. E. Sanborn, C. A. Farley, Mrs. M. H. Curran, and the committee.

The conference and excursion will afford an excellent opportunity to become acquainted with the leading English librarians and library methods, and to strengthen the bonds which already, through our common history and literature, bind together the two great English-speaking countries. The committee have realized that many of those participating will be visiting England for the first, and perhaps the only, time, and have therefore included in the itinerary as many places of historic and literary interest as possible.

By vote of the American Library Association all members of the Association and their immediate families can join the excursion, but the registration of other persons, not eligible to membership in the Library Association on the ground of their being engaged in library work, is subject to the approval of the committee.

ITINERARY.

*June* 26, *Saturday.* A.M. leave Boston on the Cunard steamship *Cephalonia.*

*July* 5 *or* 6, *Monday or Tuesday.* Arrive at Liverpool.

*July* 7, *Wednesday.* In Liverpool (Public Library, Walker art gallery). P.M. to Manchester.

*July* 8, *Thursday.* In Manchester (Public library and branches; Earl Spencer library). Evening to Birmingham.

*July* 9, *Friday.* In Birmingham (libraries).

*July* 10, *Saturday.* Kenilworth, Warwick, Stratford, and to Leamington.

*July* 11, *Sunday.* In Leamington (an attractive watering-place).

*July* 12, *Monday.* A.M. to London.

*July* 13–16. *Tuesday to Friday.* In London (International conference of librarians, visits to London libraries, etc.).

*July* 17–23. English post-conference, under the conduct of the Library Association of the United Kingdom, probably visiting Salisbury (spend Sunday), Stonehenge, Wells, Glastonbury, Cardiff, Bristol, Bath, and Reading, reaching Oxford Friday evening, July 23.

*July* 24, *Saturday.* In Oxford (Bodleian Library, colleges).

*July* 25, *Sunday.* In Oxford or London.

*July* 26–30. In London or elsewhere, as suits individual tastes.

*July* 31, *Saturday.* A.M. to Cambridge (University Library, Public Library, colleges).

*August* 1, *Sunday.* In Cambridge.

*August* 2, *Monday.* To Ely (cathedral), Lincoln (cathedral), and Sheffield.

*August* 3, *Tuesday.* In Sheffield (Public library).

*August* 4, *Wednesday.* To Leeds (Public library) and York.

*August* 5, *Thursday.* In York (cathedral, city walls and gates, Roman remains).

*August* 6, *Friday.* To Durham (cathedral) and Newcastle (libraries).

*August* 7, *Saturday.* To Melrose Abbey, Abbotsford, Dryburgh Abbey, and Edinburgh,

*August* 8, 9, *Sunday and Monday*. In Edinburgh (old and new town, libraries, museums, Holyrood).

*August* 10, *Tuesday*. To Glasgow, via Stirling (castle), Trossachs, and Loch Katrine.

*August* 11, *Wednesday*. In Glasgow (libraries). P.M. to Liverpool.

*August* 12, *Thursday*. A.M. in Liverpool or Chester. P.M. sail.

*August* 22, *Sunday*. Due at Boston.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

All travelling arrangements have been placed in the hands of Messrs. Henry Gaze & Sons' tourist agency, whose wide experience guarantees the comfort of the party. Mr. H. E. Davidson, of the Library Bureau, will act for the committee and have direct charge of the excursion.

The cost of the whole trip, with the exception of the two weeks from July 17 to 31, will be $290.

This sum covers all ocean and railroad travel and hotel accommodations and transfer from railroad station to hotel when necessary. On the steamer the rate is on the basis of four persons in a room, *outside* rooms. A few *inside* rooms, accommodating only two in a room, can be had at the same price. If *outside* rooms are occupied by three persons, an extra charge for each person of $15 each way will be made, and if by two persons, an extra charge of $25 each. No organized sight-seeing under the charge of the tourist agents in the fashion of so-called personally conducted tours will be arranged for, with the exception of the day in Warwickshire, the day at Melrose, etc., and the day in the Scotch lakes. 75 pounds of personal baggage, besides hand baggage, will be carried free. Surplus trunks and heavy ocean clothing can be stored at Liverpool until the return. It should be stated that the cost is higher than was expected because all ocean rates have been advanced this season.

Tickets will be good to return during one year on any steamer of the Cunard line on the basis of $75 accommodations. Notice of the time when one wishes to return should be given as early as possible.

The two weeks from July 17 to 31, not covered in the above arrangement, include one week which may be spent with the English post-conference excursion and a second week which may be spent in London or elsewhere as each one pleases. It is estimated that the expenses of these two weeks and minor expenses of the remainder of the trip need not exceed $75, although a larger amount should be taken to cover contingencies.

REGISTRATION.

Notice of intention to join the party must be received by April 1, or it may not be possible to provide accommodations, as the time of sailing is precisely when the steamers are most crowded.

Berths will be assigned in the order in which applications are received. Promptness will secure the first choice of accommodations.

Persons who have decided to go are requested not to delay registration in order to make choice of room-mates, but to send their deposit at once and arrange such details as soon as possible thereafter.

The blank enclosed with circular should be filled out at once and sent to the Library Bureau with a deposit of $25 for each person. If inconvenient to make the full deposit of $25 at once, a remittance of $5 will secure registration, but the balance of the $25 must be sent before April 1. The remainder of the full cost of the trip must be paid before June 5, or state-rooms will not be held. Make checks payable to the Library Bureau.

SUMMARY.

Cost of trip, excluding July 17 to 31, $290.

The fortnight from July 17 to 31, and other necessary expenses, from $75 upwards.

Extra charge for extra accommodations on steamer as above.

Deposit of $25 to be sent before April 1 to the Library Bureau.

Address all correspondence to H. E. Davidson, Library Bureau, 146 Franklin St., Boston.

WILLIAM C. LANE, Boston, *Chairman*.
GARDNER M. JONES, Salem, *Secretary*.
WM. I. FLETCHER, Amherst, Mass.
MISS C. M. HEWINS, Hartford, Ct.
MISS M. W. PLUMMER, Brooklyn, N. Y.
*European Trip Committee*.

BOSTON, March 1, 1897.

*PUBLISHING SECTION.*

PRINTED CATALOG CARDS.

THE Publishing Section has issued the following announcement:

The circular sent out in December, 1896, offering to furnish printed catalog cards, to be selected by the purchaser from an advanced list of titles, has brought so few responses that the Publishing Section will not attempt at present to carry out this plan, but will continue, as heretofore, to print cards for the current books as published, and receive subscriptions for the whole set. To assure the continuance of this work on a satisfactory basis it is very desirable that the number of subscribers should be further increased.

It is possible that the Publishing Section can perform an acceptable service by providing catalog cards for articles contained in certain periodicals, society transactions, or books of a composite nature, such as

One hundred years of American commerce, edited by C. M. Depew.
Biographies reprinted from the *Times*.
Bulletin and Memoirs of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.
Annual report of the Bureau of Ethnology, etc.

The secretary would be glad to have advice and suggestions on this point from librarians, and to receive lists of such publications for which libraries would like to have printed catalog cards sent to them.

W. C. LANE, *Secretary*

BOSTON ATHENÆUM, February, 1897.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

THE Massachusetts commission has issued its seventh annual report (40 p. O.), covering the work accomplished in 1896. Evidently, so far as the establishing of libraries is concerned, it will not be long before the commission finds its occupation gone, for there are now but 19 towns in the state that are without a free library. Of these, two have the free use of adjacent libraries, and of the remaining 17 four or five are maturing plans for the formation of a library, while in nearly all the others there are good association libraries. But there is no lack of other directions in which the commission is of direct helpfulness to the libraries, and its work as a supervising and advisory body shows no sign of diminishing. Requests for advice and information have been received not only from residents of the state, but from persons all over the country, while a number of inquirers have remained anonymous, preferring "that even their names or the localities they designed to benefit should be unknown to the members of the commission." "There is hardly a detail relative to the selection of a site, the plan, the material for construction, the heating, lighting, ventilation, the external ornamentation or the interior finish, the arrangement of the rooms, the shelving and the manifold conveniences for the economic and systematic administration of a library building that has not been the subject of frequent inquiry," while information as to selection, purchase, classification, and arrangement of books, methods of work with the schools, extension of reference work, co-operation with clubs and associations, and means of raising the standard of reading, is constantly sought. During the year four towns have been supplied with books under the act of 1890, three towns have received books under the act of 1892, and one town (Peru) has been given books under the special act of 1896 to replace its library, which was destroyed by fire. The 18 travelling libraries of the Woman's Education Association are among the most valuable auxiliaries of the commission. The record of gifts and bequests to Massachusetts libraries during 1896 includes 16 cities or towns.

Besides its summary of work accomplished, the report contains a useful *preçis* of "state effort to establish free libraries," giving the laws now existing in the various states with a note on legislation now pending, and a suggestive account of "the use of libraries by children," with hints for strengthening the relations between libraries and schools. The record of library legislation is an especially valuable feature and should be widely useful. Appended are the usual "Roll of honor," listing givers of free library buildings in Massachusetts, and the library laws of the state.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

THE February meeting of the association was held at Boulder on the 12th. The best part of the day was spent by the visiting members in inspecting the state university and particularly its library, which is in charge of Mr. A. E. Whitaker, president of the association, who was our guide and instructor.

The meeting proper was held in the Congregational church with a large and much interested audience present.

The program was arranged with the idea of creating public interest in the question of establishing a public library in Boulder, and the Rev. Charles Caverno first addressed the meeting on that subject. Dr. Caverno was of the opinion that when the citizens of a town wanted a library the way to get it was to start right to work and do it without any red tape or preliminaries. He therefore introduced a resolution to the effect that the Colorado Library Association select a committee of citizens to canvass the town and consider ways and means of organizing. This committee, consisting of five members, was duly appointed and instructed to report at a public meeting to be called by them on or before May 1, 1897.

Mr. G. M. Lee, the chairman of the committee on legislation, then made a report on the progress of the bill now pending to establish a state library commission. Mr. Lee's report was highly encouraging although not certain for the passage of the bill.

Mr. J. C. Dana then spoke on the subject "A library building for a growing town." Mr. Dana exhibited a set of building plans drawn with the view of starting on a small scale and occupying only a part of the building and using

more as growth demanded, the remaining portion of the building being suitable for offices or stores. After a discussion of these plans the meeting adjourned.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary.*

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.
*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.
*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.
*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.
*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago Ill.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.
*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.
*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.
*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.
*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.
*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

LIST OF SELECT FICTION.

THE special committee on the "Lists of select fiction" has sent the following letter to the various state and local library associations and clubs:

Some time ago the Massachusetts Library Club sent out a series of questions regarding the "Lists of select fiction," which it published for the year Sept., 1895–Aug., 1896.

The answers to these questions showed that the lists were helpful to many libraries and worth being continued. The club has not the money to do this work alone, and, therefore, appointed a special committee to learn if the other library associations and individuals were disposed to co-operate with the club, especially as to expense.

Will your association be willing to give for this purpose $10 or more a year for three years? Of course if the lists could be made to pay for themselves after the first year the amount guaranteed by your association for the remaining two years would not be called for.

If the executive board of your association has not the power to do this, will you present the question at the next meeting and report as early as possible?

NINA E. BROWNE,
HILLER C. WELLMAN,
GARDNER M. JONES,
*Committee.*

BOSTON ATHENÆUM, March, 1897.

NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting of the club will probably be held in Boston in April, and will take up the subject of book illustration in various phases.

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.
*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.
*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.
*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.
*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.
*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* J: B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

FIRST JOINT MEETING WITH PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB, ATLANTIC CITY, APRIL 5–6, 1897.

THE first joint meeting of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Library Associations will be held at Atlantic City, Monday and Tuesday, April 5–6, 1897. From returns already received the attendance will be over 100.

After consultation with the Atlantic City local committee the following announcement is made:

The P. R. R. has been selected for the official route, and the rate of fare will be:

From N. Y. to Atlantic City and return $5.00.
From Phila. " " " " 1.75.

Special cars for exclusive use of members will be attached to train leaving N. Y. Satur-

day, April 3, 1:50 p.m., Phila. 4 p.m., and Monday if time of departure is given to the secretaries.

The Grand Atlantic Hotel, Virginia Ave. and the beach, will be the headquarters. This hotel has accommodation for 700, and gives the associations the use of its hall with seating capacity of 200. Rates: one day or less, $2.50; Saturday to Tuesday, or any other three days, $2.25 per day; week, $15.

The Atlantic City reception committee, of which Mayor Stoy is president and Mr. Scull, secretary, will attend to the welfare of the party, and on Monday evening the associations will be received by the mayor; a business session will follow. Tuesday, at 9:30 a.m., a second session will be held, the party leaving on p.m. trains.

The following are among the topics to be discussed: "What the state could do for free public libraries," "Some aims and prospects of the Princeton University Library," "The effect of a free public library on the community," and "The public library and the child."

Librarians who may not be members of either association are cordially invited to attend this meeting and take part in the deliberations. Atlantic City is at its best in April. Any one who intends to be present should send name to Beatrice Winser, public librarian, Newark, or Mary P. Farr, Public Library, Philadelphia.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton,

*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* W: R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

THE sixth annual conference of the Wisconsin Library Association was held at Milwaukee, Wis., on Feb. 22 and 23, 1897. The following libraries were represented: Appleton, Ashland, Beaver Dam, Beloit, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Fort Atkinson, Grand Rapids, Green Bay, Janesville, Madison, Menomonie, Monroe, Oconomowoc, Oshkosh, Sheboygan, Two Rivers, Wauwatosa, West Superior; the State Historical and University libraries of Madison, Wis.; the Whitewater, Platteville, and Stevens Point normal schools; the Armour Institute of Technology; the Public Library of Chicago; and the Evanston (Ill.) Public Library. The State Federation of Women's Clubs, the Woman's School Alliance, and the National Household Economic Association, were represented by a number of delegates.

The sessions were opened in the large reference-room with an address of welcome by J. M. Pereles, president of the Milwaukee Public Library board, to which response was made by F. A. Hutchins, president of the association. Mr. Hutchins then made a talk on "Travelling libraries in Wisconsin." Mr. Hutchins stated that Senator Stout's libraries had become so popular that the original 16 travelling libraries had been increased to 36 — the number of books in the last 10 purchased having been increased from 30 to 40 books each, the additions being mainly copies of children's books. The talk was illustrated with a sample library and photographs of the localities to which the books are sent.

Mr. Hutchins was followed by Miss Janet M. Green, secretary of the Northern Wisconsin Travelling Library Association, who read a paper on the work done by that organization. The association has received donations from all parts of the country and is in a prosperous condition. Much interest is evinced in the work in the northern counties.

The secretary read a letter from the librarian of one of the Witter travelling libraries in Wood county, expressing great appreciation of the donor's kindness.

Miss M. L. Clark, vice-president for Wisconsin of the National Household Economic Association, read the resolutions passed at the recent session of that body, endorsing the travelling library movement and pledging co-operation in the movement as the best means for diffusing literature on sanitary and household subjects in the rural districts.

"Travelling pictures" was the subject of an interesting paper by Miss Mary E. Tanner, teacher of drawing at the Stevens Point Normal School. Miss Tanner explained ways of mounting the pictures, and exhibited a number of pictures similar to those now being circulated in Wood county. Miss Tanner's illustra-

tions were reinforced by an exhibition by Mrs. W. W. Sherman, of Milwaukee, of large photographs suitable for such purposes.

Senator J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis., opened the general discussion of travelling libraries and pictures. Senator Stout referred to the bill now pending in the state legislature, which provides for an increased appropriation for the use of the state library commission, and stated that it was hoped to start a state system of travelling libraries in the near future. Senator Stout advocated the organization of associations in the country districts for the discussion of such topics as "good roads," as he considered good roads to be an important factor in the furtherance of the travelling library movement. Mr. Stout was followed by Dr. E. A. Birge, Madison, Wis., and Rev. S. E. Lathrop, of Ashland.

Upon the conclusion of the afternoon's addresses the 80 delegates from out of town were invited to gather around two large round tables, upon which supper was served by the members of the Milwaukee Library Round Table. Opportunity was given for an inspection of the library before the opening of the evening session, which was devoted to the trustees' section, and presided over by Dr. E. A. Birge, trustee of the city library at Madison. In opening the discussion, Dr. Birge alluded to the rapid growth of the association and the increasing interest taken in its sessions. He spoke of the education the trustees and librarians were receiving through the discussions at the annual meetings, and stated that things had not been going so well for the lazy trustee and the indifferent librarian since the organization of the association. Communities were becoming aroused to the importance of the part libraries may take in the education of the people, which fact augured well for the further advancement of library interests.

Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, founder of the Vaughn Library at Ashland, Wis., then spoke on the "Responsibility of the trustee to the library." Mrs. Vaughn made a plea for sympathetic interest in the library on the part of the trustee, and also urged the appointment of trained librarians at the head of small libraries, thus relieving trustees from much of the labor involved in the management of the library. Dr. Peckham, of the Milwaukee Public Library, spoke from the dual capacity of trustee and librarian, having been a member of the Milwaukee library board for many years before assuming the position of librarian. Dr. Peckham stated that a distinct line should be drawn between the work of the trustee and the work of the librarian. The librarian should be in every sense the executive officer of the library, the board determining the general policy of the institution.

Dr. Peckham was followed by the Hon. John Johnston, trustee of the Milwaukee Library. Mr. Johnston said that the duty of library trustees was plain; that they should first select the best librarian to be found and then let him do as he pleased.

Dr. Birge then called upon Col. J. W. Thompson, president of the Illinois State Library Association and trustee of the Evanston (Ill.) Public Library. Col. Thompson stated that the relation between the trustee and librarian should be that of mutual confidence and cordiality; that there should be oneness of effort and oneness of aim.

Miss Cornelia Marvin, reference librarian of the Armour Institute of Technology, then read a most comprehensive paper on "Library training schools." In the discussion following, Dr. Birge, as one of the directors of the University Summer School, paid a high tribute to the able manner in which the Library Summer School had been conducted by Miss Katharine L. Sharp, of Chicago.

Mrs. Chas. S. Morris, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, then read a paper which had been deferred from the afternoon meeting, on "Travelling libraries and study clubs." Mrs. Morris's paper was one of the best of the conference. It referred to the efforts being made by the clubs in Wisconsin for the establishment of travelling reference libraries, and pledged the heartiest co-operation in the state travelling library movement. One of the first committees to be appointed by the new federation was that on library co-operation.

The session on Tuesday morning partook of the nature of a round table conference and was opened by a paper on the "Wisconsin summer school of library science," written by Miss Margaret G. Pierce, of Cleveland, Ohio, and read by the secretary. Miss Pierce spoke of the school as inspiring new ideals, its sessions being deemed of the utmost helpfulness to those experienced and inexperienced in the library profession.

Miss Sue C. Nichols, of Fort Atkinson, Wis., then made a talk on the question "Shall we give access to shelves?" A vote taken after the discussion showed that a large majority of the librarians present allowed patrons to help themselves.

Mrs. Sarah H. Miner, Madison, Wis., then opened the discussion of "The two-book system" by a comprehensive paper on the methods and purposes of the modern innovation. In small libraries it was deemed advisable to limit borrowers to one work of fiction at a time, and the general opinion was in favor of restricting the privilege to adults, to prevent over-reading on the part of the children.

Miss Mary J. Doolittle, Beaver Dam, Wis., advocated the purchase of duplicates of the best books, rather than an attempt to get a variety of mediocre literature.

Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, of the Milwaukee Public Library, made a plea for the purchase of many good popular novels and protested against attempts at keeping down the percentage of fiction to the detriment of the library's popularity among hard-working people.

"Foreign fiction in small libraries" was the subject of an interesting paper by Miss Lucy Lee Pleasants, of the Menasha Public Library. Miss Pleasants urged the purchase of books for the foreign population in their native

tongue on the pleas of taxation and public happiness.

In "A diffident child's first visit to a library" Miss Minnie M. Oakley, Madison, Wis., allowed the child to speak for herself, and she told in an entertaining way of her visits to the "Centerburg," Beaver Dam, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Jamestown (N. Y.) public libraries and of the receptions she was accorded at each.

The question-box was then opened and found to contain questions on the best magazine bindings, hours of opening, reservation of books, etc., etc., the questions being answered by the committee of the whole.

The delegates assembled after dinner at the State Normal School for the "Libraries and schools" session, which had been planned with a view to interesting the future teachers in the mutual relations which should exist between the two great factors in education.

Miss M. E. Ahern, Chicago, Ill., secretary of the library section of the National Educational Association, read a paper on the objects and aims of the library section. Miss Ahern, on behalf of the section, requested that delegates be appointed from the library association to attend the forthcoming meeting of the N. E. A. in Milwaukee, in July, 1897. The entire membership of the Wisconsin Library Association will constitute the delegation to this meeting.

Miss Irene Warren, librarian of the Stevens Point Normal School, read an interesting paper on the "Normal School Library." Miss Warren has library reading classes, gives instruction in the use of books, etc., and has started home libraries as object lessons to students along philanthropic lines. Miss Warren's paper was discussed by Miss L. P. Swan, of the West Superior (Wis.) Normal School, and by Miss Schreiber, of the Milwaukee Normal School.

"The use and abuse of township libraries" was the subject of an interesting paper by W. H. Cheever, institute conductor at the Milwaukee Normal School. This paper will undoubtedly be published in the next biennial report of the state library commission.

Miss Mary E. Dousman, of the Milwaukee Library, discussed "The best 25 books for children from five to 11 years of age," and Miss Anna H. McDonnell, of the Green Bay Public Library, performed a like service for the best 25 books for children from 11 to 16 years of age. The lists of books were printed by the state library commission and were distributed at the meeting. (These lists will be sent to all who desire them.)

Miss Mary F. Hall, primary supervisor of the Milwaukee schools, read a most original and helpful paper on "Books of Adventure for Boys," which it is hoped will be printed by the commission for general distribution.

At the short business session in the morning the president and secretary declined re-election and the following officers were thereupon elected: President, Dr. E. A. Birge, trustee City Library, Madison; First vice-president, Dr. G. W. Peckham, librarian Milwaukee Public Library; Second vice-president, Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, founder Vaughn Library, Ashland; Secretary, Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Milwaukee Public Library; Treasurer, Miss Maude A. Earley, librarian Chippewa Falls Public Library. L. E. STEARNS, *Secretary.*

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.
*Treasurer:* W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute.

By invitation of Mr. C. W. Andrews the Chicago Library Club held its 34th regular meeting at the John Crerar Library, Thursday evening, Jan. 7, at eight o'clock.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. A. H. Hopkins, who announced the appointments of committees to undertake the work of the compilation and publication of the union list of periodicals which is to be published by the club.

Mr. Andrews, chairman of the committee on editing, reported that he had received assurance from the chairman of the committee on finance that the club might count on sufficient pecuniary assistance for the printing of such a list. He said that the committee had voted that the club request the librarians of the larger libraries of Chicago and vicinity to state how far they would be willing to assist the club in the preparation of the list in as complete a form as possible.

Mr. Hild, chairman of the committee on finance, reported that no definite amount had been secured, but the committee had no doubt of receiving adequate help from all the larger libraries and many of the smaller ones.

Following Mr. Hild's report, the paper of the evening, "Libraries from the outside," was read by Mr. H. T. Sudduth. After touching upon the subject of free access to books historically, the practical side was taken up, and a plan outlined which would admit all readers to the shelves even in the largest public library.

It was hoped that Mr. Norman Williams, president of the John Crerar Library board, would be present to say something of the founder, and the inception and scope of the library. In his absence Mr. Andrews, librarian of the John Crerar Library, spoke briefly of the plans and scope of the library, and gave a very cordial welcome to the club upon this, the first public meeting held in the new library. The members of the club then spent a pleasant hour looking about the library, its beautiful rooms and very complete equipment. Re-

freshments were served by the young ladies of the library staff. MARY B. LINDSAY,
*Secretary pro tem.*

THE February meeting of the club was held in the rooms of the Free Public Library of Evanston, Ill., Thursday evening, Feb. 4, at 7:30.

The usual business of the club was first transacted, and the members were notified of the resignation of Miss May L. Bennett as secretary, and the election of Miss Margaret Mann, of Armour Institute of Technology, to succeed Miss Bennett.

The first paper of the evening was by Mr. G. B. Meleney, of the Library Bureau, on "New devices in library appliances."

Mr. Meleney said that with the consent of the president, he would not confine his remarks to library appliances, but would speak on subjects of general interest to the librarian. He stated that the Library Bureau did not lead in library devices, but rather followed the suggestions and demands of the librarian.

The remainder of the program was given up to a series of papers prepared by assistants in the libraries in and about Chicago, and devoted to subjects of interest in the libraries represented.

The first was by Miss Margaret Mann, of Armour Institute of Technology, who told how the instruction in cataloging is given to the library training class.

Mr. Carl Roden, of the cataloging department of the Chicago Public Library, described the new public card catalog which has been in progress since 1893, and which represents a cost of about $20,000.

Miss Sarah Dickinson, who has charge of the periodicals at the John Crerar Library, gave an interesting account of the method of keeping the records of the large number of periodicals subscribed for by this library.

"Shorter titles under subject entries" was the subject of the next paper, presented by Miss McIlvaine, of the Newberry Library. The last paper told of the work which is being carried on by the Free Public Library of Evanston with the public schools. This subject was presented by Miss Alling, of the Evanston Library.

At the close a social hour was spent, and light refreshments were served.

MARGARET MANN, *Secretary.*

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so, good-day!"

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Secretary:* Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.

*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 21st meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University on Feb. 24, 1897, Mr. W. P. Cutter in the chair.

It was stated that the next meeting would be held March 31 in the Temple of the Supreme Council of the 33d Degree of the A. and A. Scottish Rite of Free Masonry, which has been kindly tendered the association for that purpose. The association expect to have with them as guests, on that occasion, Miss Mary W. Plummer and the library class of the Pratt Institute.

The election of Mr. W. L. Boyden to membership was also announced.

Mr. Parsons was called upon, as chairman of the handbook committee, to give a statement of the progress made by that committee. He said that frequent meetings had been held, blanks prepared, and sent to all libraries in the district, for information desired; and as this data is received, it is put in shape for the printer. The effort of the committee is to make this book as useful as possible to librarians, both here and away from the city, by describing as far as may be the classes in which each library is strong, so that persons desiring a given work can tell which will be the most likely place to find it.

The paper of the evening was then read by Dr. Cyrus Adler, entitled "The Library of the Smithsonian Institution." It was an historical account of that library from its inception to date, and contained an amount of information which will be of great value to all when printed. The attention which was given it, and the questions which were asked the author upon its completion showed how much it was enjoyed by the hearers.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

PREPARATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

THE original bibliography which must be submitted as one of the conditions of graduation in the school is one of the important features of the senior year, and no part of the school-work is done with greater thoroughness or enthusiasm.

The students in choosing subjects and the faculty in approving them are exceedingly anxious to secure those which will be of practical value.

The bibliography on municipal government has been sent to Providence, Chicago, Leland Stanford University, New York, and Philadelphia, for the temporary use of persons wishing to consult it. We should be glad to receive suggestions from librarians, teachers, leaders of clubs, or specialists, as to subjects for which they wish bibliographies or reading lists.

A list is appended of work in this line which has been completed:

Phillips Brooks. G: W. C. Stockwell, '95.
Hawthorne. N. E. Browne, '89.
Ben Jonson. Mrs. M. (W.) Loomis, '90.
Charles Kingsley. E. E. Burdick, '90.
John Lothrop Motley. M. E. Robbins, '92.
Charles Sumner. H. W. Denio, '94.
Bayard Taylor. W: S. Burns, '91.
John Wesley. E. L. Foote, '92.
Poems on Lincoln, Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan. M. L. Sutliff, '93.
Members of the A. L. A. H. C. Silliman, '95.
Lists of books for children. J. Y. Middleton, '91.
Higher criticism of the Old Testament. (Select.) Rev. W: R. Eastman, '92.
Christian art. (Select.) M. L. Davis, '92.
Church history. (Reading list.) Elizabeth Harvey, '90.
Religious denominations of the U. S. (Select.) G: F. Bowerman, '95.
Municipal government in the U. S. M. L. Jones, '92; J. A. Rathbone, '93; E. D. Biscoe, '96.
New philanthropy. (Reading list.) H. G. Sheldon, '93.
Education of women. M. E. Hawley, '93.
Consolidated index to university extension periodicals. Myrtilla Avery, '95.
Fairy-tales for children. (Select.) F. J. Olcott, '96.
English works on King Arthur and the Round Table. F. R. Curtis, '96.
Out-of-door books. (Select.) H. H. Stanley, '95.
Art of the 17th century. (Reading list.) N. M. Pond, '96.
Some famous cathedrals. (Reading list.) L. M. Sutermeister, '90.
Ten great paintings. (Reading list.) Ada Bunnell, '91.
Greek and Latin plays produced by schools, colleges, and universities in the U. S. G: G. Champlin, '95.
Angling, supplementing Westwood and Satchell's Bibliotheca piscatoria. Henrietta Church, '93.
English literature of later 18th century. (Select.) M.. C. Swayze, '89.
Fiction for girls. (Select) A. B. Kroeger, '91.
Graded list of history and travel prepared in the Lincoln (Nebraska) Public Library for the use of the Lincoln public schools. E. D. Bullock, '94.
Books to read before going to Europe. (Reading list.) S. W. Cattell, '90.
Maryland: colonial and revolutionary history. W. I. Bullock, '92.
English and American explorations in Africa since 1824. (Reading list.) H.. W. Rice, '93.
Travel in America. (Reading list.) C: W. Plympton, '91.
Literature relating to the Hudson river. M. T. Wheeler, '91.
Travels west of the Mississippi prior to 1855: a partial bibliography of printed personal narratives. K. L. Sharp, '92.
Josephine and the women of her time. Mary Ellis, '92.
200 books on biography for a popular library. (Select.) Mabel Temple, '90.
History of the 17th century. (Reading list.) G. F. Leonard, '95.
Edinburgh. (Reading list.) W. G. Forsyth, '93.
Venice. (Reading list.) Helen Sperry, '94.
Japan. (Reading list.) H.. K. Gay, '95.
Colonial New England. (Reading list.) M. C. Wilson, '95.
Consolidated classified index to the LIBRARY JOURNAL, v. 1–9. B. R. Macky, '92; J. L. Christman, '93; C. S. Hawes, '94.
Cap and gown: some college verse. J. L. Harrison, '93.

ANNUAL VISIT.

The school will visit the libraries of New York and vicinity, April 13–23.

MARY S. CUTLER.

NEW QUARTERS.

The Library School took possession in February of its new rooms on the fifth floor of the capitol. These are directly over the old quarters, 60 feet higher. They are reached by three elevators, and besides the finer view, the quiet and freedom from dust — because so much further from the street — they have much better ventilation and light and more abundant room. Instead of the tables heretofore used, the students are supplied with standard desks and each with an electric student-lamp. Large new coat and toilet rooms have been provided, and the school begins its second decade by occupying quarters better adapted to its work than it has ever before enjoyed.

OMISSION OF SUMMER SESSION OF 1897.

Two reasons have determined the faculty to omit the summer session of the Library School for 1897.

1. The confusion and labor incident to transferring the school and all its collections to entirely new quarters on the upper floor of the capitol.

2. The large number who will be abroad this summer attending the International Library Congress in London.

*PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

A GRADUATE association of the Pratt Institute Library School was formed on Jan. 14, on the occasion of the joint meeting of the New York State Library Association and the New York Library Club. About 30 graduates were present, and the meeting was organized by the election of Miss Wallis, class of '95, as temporary chairman. Miss Plummer was called upon to speak, and in a few words told of the unsuccessful efforts of the separate class organizations to accomplish a definite work, and of the evident need for a combination of forces.

A discussion followed, which was closed by the unanimous adoption of the resolution of-

fered by Mr. Berry: "We, as graduates of the Pratt Institute Library Training School, do hereby form a Graduate Association."

A constitution was then drawn up and adopted.

The following officers were elected: President, Silas H. Berry, class of '91; Vice-president, Catharine W. Faucon, class of '94; Recording secretary, Helen R. Trowbridge, class of '95; Corresponding secretary, Grace Hanford, class of '95; Treasurer, Edith M. Pomeroy, class of '92.

The association has a membership of 58.

An interesting list of $200 worth of books on American history, compiled by the first-year class of the library school, is published in the March number of the *Pratt Institute Monthly*. The list was prepared in answer to a request received from a newly-established library.

The school plans to make a library tour of Washington and its vicinity during the last week in March. The party will leave for Washington March 29 and will return on April 3. During the six days they will visit the Corcoran Gallery, the Washington Public Library, the Congressional Library and its new building, the Naval Observatory, War, State, and other department libraries, the office of public documents, the Johns Hopkins, Enoch Pratt, and Peabody Institute libraries of Baltimore, and will attend the March meeting of the Washington Library Association.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

The *Century* for March contains an interesting paper on "The art of large giving," by George Iles, in which the notable library gifts to the United States, such as the Newberry, Astor, Carnegie libraries, etc., are briefly noted, with many other examples of large public benefactions.

### LOCAL.

*Allegheny (Pa.) Public School L.* The library board has established a system of travelling libraries for the use of the public schools in outlying wards of the city. Each collection consists of from 100 to 150 volumes, and the libraries will be kept in the various schools for periods of three months, and books issued by the teachers for home reading among the children.

*Altoona (Pa.) Mechanics' L. and Reading-room.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1880, total 24,305. Issued, home use 45,778. Total membership 888. Receipts $3953.50; expenses $3649.87.

125 school-children have free membership tickets, representing an equal number of shares of library stock owned by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. Regular membership dues are $3 yearly, and junior membership, for boys under 21 who are learning trades, is $1 yearly.

*Austin (Ill.) P. L.* A free reference library of about 500 v. has been opened in Austin, one of the suburbs of Chicago, through the efforts of the local Woman's Club. It is hoped that it may be the nucleus of an adequate circulating library.

*Bangor (Me.) P. L.* (14th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1991; total 40,542. Repaired at library 2080; rebound 541. Issued, home use 48,664 (fict. 76%); reading-room use 40,741 (fict. 53%). Receipts $6227.96; expenses $6023.18.

During the year the experiment of holiday opening was tried; the circulation on the six holidays from April to December was 550 home use, 457 reading-room use.

The librarian calls attention again "to the great need of the proposed library building."

*Baltimore, Enoch Pratt F. L.* (11th rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, '97.) Added 12,840; total 176,329. Issued 653,731 (fict. and juv. 74%), of which 53,881 v. were issued for reference and library use. There were 165,877 periodicals used at the reading-room of the central library and in the six branches. Since the library was opened 167 books have been lost, of which 20 were first missing in 1896. "The risk of loss is 1 to 32,686 of circulation. In addition to the missing books 64 v. were lost and paid for in 1896." New registration 7417; cards in force 32,607. Expenses for 1896 were $74,227.36, of which $20,092.99 were devoted to the construction of branch no. 6.

The establishment of the sixth branch was the chief event in the library year. "The building was completed in the autumn and opened to the public on Nov. 14, with about 6500 books on its shelves. These books were cataloged during the spring and summer and were removed to the branch in two days, early in November."

Dr. Steiner opens his report with a short tribute to the late Enoch Pratt and his unfailing efforts to improve and strengthen his great library.

*Baltimore, Peabody Institute L.* Within the past month the newspapers of Baltimore have devoted much space to "Duncan's clothes." James Duncan, president of the local Federation of Labor, at a meeting of the federation, spoke of his "being sneered at," because of his clothes, when he visited the Peabody Library, somewhat poorly dressed and in his working clothes. He declared that the Peabody Institute had fallen into the hands of the "select few," and that it was the duty of the federation to see to it that the same fate did not befall the Enoch Pratt Free Library. The federation has appointed a committee to investigate the management of the Peabody Institute.

*Braddock, Pa. Carnegie L.* The first art loan exhibit ever shown in Braddock was opened on Feb. 18 in the library building and continued for a week. It was arranged by Miss Sperry with the help of a local committee

and included the work of about 60 exhibitors, embracing examples of embroidery, woodwork, and brasswork as well as of painting.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* A book reception was given by the members of the association on Feb. 2, each person attending being expected to wear decorations or badges denoting the titles of the books they presented. About 400 v. were secured, thus forming the nucleus of the library. Mrs. H. W. Chatfield was chosen librarian of the association.

*Cambridge (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, '96.) Added 4163; total 51,697. Issued, home use 133,532 (fict. and juv. .688 %), of which 7518 were delivered through the schools; lib. use 12,701. No. cardholders 13,168. Receipts $18,396.95; expenses $18,354 06.

The recataloging of the library has been in progress for some time past, and Mr. Gifford recommends the publication of a printed fiction list as soon as practicable, and the issue from time to time of class lists on special subjects. The pamphlets, heretofore practically inaccessible, have been partially classified and a part of the collection of government publications has been entirely recataloged. Additional stack-room will soon be necessary.

The children's reading-room has often been taxed beyond its seating capacity, and its enlargement is much needed so that all juvenile books for circulation may be placed there for free access.

During the year two new delivery stations were established and collections of books were also sent for circulation to the Y. W. C. A. and other associations. Mr. Gifford believes that "deposits of books made in this way in different parts of the city will prove important factors in gradually extending the usefulness and influence of the public library. And I think we should invite requests for temporary loans of books from any organization which bids fair to put them to profitable use among its members." He also recommends that the library be opened on Sunday evening.

*Canton (O.) P. L. A.* Added 433; total 4904. Issued 24,372 (fict. 12,439). New registration 528; total cardholders 6248. Receipts $2686 04; expenses $2117.17; these figures are for the general expense fund; in addition $398.64 were spent for the purchase of books.

*Castile, N. Y. Cordelia A. Greene P. L.* The library was opened to the public on Feb. 22, with Miss Emily B. Felt acting as librarian. The nucleus of this library consists of the 500 volumes of the Scribner "model library" and about 200 other volumes, the use of which is given to the public through the generosity of Miss Cordelia A. Greene. The library is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from one to six and from seven to nine p.m.

*Chicago P. L.* Six rooms in the magnificent new building were opened to the public the last week in February, and arrangements for the complete working of the library in its new home are rapidly progressing.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* The south side branch of the public library was opened on Feb. 22. Among the recent accessions to the library is a collection of the carbon photographs published by Braun, Clément & Co., of New York City.

*Columbia Univ. L., New York City.* Advance sheets of the report of the librarian for 1896 give the following facts and statistics: Added 20.584; total about 223,000. "The average annual addition for the preceding five years has been 18,329. It is probable that an annual increase of about 20,000 is what the library should expect to realize for the coming year, unless large and important gifts should make its more rapid development possible. Such a growth continued on the lines of selection and arrangement which have prevailed in recent years in the library, will create in a term of years a collection of books ample for all reasonable demands for university study." Issued, home use 59,756; use of books in the building has increased considerably.

*Columbus (O.) Public School L.* (20th rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '96.) Added 2670; total 30,203. Issued, home use 103,089 (fict. 31.78 %; juv. 36.42 %); ref. use 17,613; cards in use by borrowers 9948, of which 4610 are held by adult readers. Receipts $7795.14; expenses $6639.11.

The death of Mr. J. H. Spielman, librarian since 1891, which occurred on Oct. 9, 1896, necessarily delayed the publication of this report, which was completed by and issued under the charge of Mr. Hensel, the present librarian, who was elected to the position on Oct. 20. The "school classics" department of the library now contains about 6300 v., which are issued to the various schools, on requisition from principals of primary and grammar grades, at the rate of about 1364 v. per month. Section 1 of the catalog was issued during the year.

*Dedham (Mass.) P. L.* On Feb. 20 the library celebrated its 25th anniversary.

*Denver (Col.) P. L.* An interesting co-operative work toward the making of a union list of medical literature has been started by the Public Library and the Colorado Medical Library Association, according to resolutions passed at the annual meeting of the latter association in January. The library of the medical association has for the past year or so been housed in the public library and used for public reference. This collection it is now planned to supplement by the making of a list of the bound medical journals and books not contained in the medical library owned by local physicians who approve of the scheme. Notices explaining the plan have been sent to the physicians in question, accompanied by a blank form, on which is to be recorded, under title, author, date, no. v., place and publisher, "a list of books and journals in the private library of Dr. ——, which may be consulted by patrons of the Public Library, Denver, during the following office hours." The lists thus secured will be compiled into one list, easy of reference and kept always on file in the Public Library. "This

union list will, in regard to any given volume, tell in whose office it may be found, and at what hour any reader who wishes may visit that office and refer to it. This plan will make available to the medical men of Denver a very large and valuable collection of the best medical literature of recent years; a much larger collection than any public institution can offer for many years to come."

*Galena (Ill.) P. L.* (2d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 751; total 3389. Issued, home use 25,327 (fict. 89%); visitors to reading-room 32,569. New registration 186; total cards in force 1387.

*Harvard University.* It is proposed to establish a memorial library at Harvard in honor of the late Prof. Francis James Child. About $10,000 have already been subscribed for the purpose and a number of books have been donated. The collection is to be specially intended for students of English literature.

*Hoboken (N. J.) P. L.* March 29 is the date set for the opening of the new library building.

*Holbrook (Mass.) P. L.* The library was destroyed by fire on Feb. 28. The town hall, in which the library was housed, was saved by hard work, but the 7500 books were almost totally destroyed. The fire broke out in the library-room, or in the boiler-room directly below it. The building was insured for $29,000, of which $4000 was on the library; the loss is estimated at from $8000 to $12,000.

*Indianapolis, Ind.* On Feb. 9 the public library of West Indianapolis, a small town across the river from Indianapolis, was opened. It occupies three attractive rooms in a central location, and starts work with about 2000 v. The library was established by local subscription and taxation. With the prospect of final annexation to the city of Indianapolis, the managers have followed the system of the Indianapolis library as far as possible, and practically the same rules govern the two libraries. When the union of the two cities is made it is expected that the library as now organized will remain as one of the branch libraries.

*Iowa City (Ia.) P. L.* At the municipal election, held March 1, a one-mill tax was carried for the support of the library, which was opened on the 20th of January of this year. The library is already circulating on an average 150 books a day.

*Kansas State L.* On Feb. 2 a bill was introduced into the state legislature by Congressman Hackney providing for the transfer of the books and collections of the state historical society to the state library.

*Lawrenceville, Pa.* Plans were recently accepted for the Carnegie Library building of Lawrenceville. The town is a suburb of Pittsburgh, and the new library is the first of the series of branches of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library, which it is planned to establish. The building will be of pressed brick with stone trimmings, 100x80 feet. The first floor will be devoted to a delivery-room, a children's room, and a stack-room at the rear, with a book capacity of 25,000 v. A periodical reading-room, and an auditorium seating 500 persons, will occupy the basement. The amount to be devoted to the Lawrenceville branch from the entire fund given by Mr. Carnegie is $37,500.

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 1, '96.) Added 4415; total 44,564. Issued, home use 497,615 (fict. 227,367, juv. 58,234); ref. use 58,697. New registration 4727; total registration 26,567. Receipts $26,959.61; expenses $21,633.03.

During the year 20,620 v. were delivered to the schools, an increase of 3204, while 351 of the 414 teachers of the city are users of the library. $744.21 were received for the school work from the board of education and with this 700 v. were purchased. There are now four Rudolph indexers in use in the library. Several alterations are being made in the interior arrangement of the library, among them the fitting up of a children's department. "What the library needs more than anything else, except a new building of its own, is a finding list up to date and gotten out as soon as possible."

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* At a common council meeting on Feb. 5 a bill was recommended for passage to the legislature providing for increasing the local public library tax from its present rate of one-quarter of a mill to two-fifths of a mill. On Feb. 8 the bill was vetoed by the mayor on the ground that the measure was less pressing than other legislation to be presented to the legislature. The veto was sustained by the common council.

*Minnesota lib. commission bill.* The bill providing for the establishment of a state library commission and a system of travelling libraries was indefinitely postponed by action of the state legislature on Feb. 18. The bill had been recommended for passage in the senate on Feb. 5, but was opposed in the house by Representative Donnelly. Mr. Donnelly, in speaking against the bill, said that "it was not within the province of the legislature to supply the people with books any more than it was with boots. Moreover, he doubted the practicability of what was to be attempted. Books were not read in a single day, nor a single week. One member of a family did not peruse them and then return them. They were read by every member of the family. Circulation under such circumstances was a slow process. Again, how were these different libraries to be sent from part to part of the state, granted that the problem of circulation resolved itself into conditions which could be successfully met? The whole thing was really a scheme for some dealer to job off a lot of books." He then warned his hearers that the $5000 appropriation was intended "as a levy to pry a hole in the barrier and in the sacred name of intelligence and education to let in a flood of extravagance upon the treasury."

*Monmouth, Ill. Warren County L. A.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, '97.) Added 684; total 17,501. Issued, home use, books 15,556, magazines 5965; ref. use, from stack 4918, from open shelves (estimated) 26,000. There was an average daily attendance of 200 in the reading-room.

*Nebraska State L., Lincoln.* (Biennial rpt., '94-96.) Added 2840; total 36,075. "At its last session the legislature appropriated from the library fund the sum of $600 'for the purpose of purchasing the necessary cards and cases and for arranging a card catalog for the state library.' This appropriation has been expended and considerable progress made toward supplying a catalog, which is so much needed." Mr. Campbell asks for an appropriation of $1800 for continuing the cataloging work. Much of the report is devoted to an account of the travelling library system, which is recommended for Nebraska. The estimated cost of establishing the system is placed at $2500.

*New Orleans, Mo. Fisk F. and P. L.* Since its opening in February the library has had an attendance averaging 200 readers a day for periodicals alone. The circulation of fiction begins on March 15, on which day the fiction catalog will be ready for distribution at a nominal price. The statement in the February L. J. that the miscellaneous books in the state library formed a part of the collection consolidated into the new library was not wholly accurate. This collection has not yet been transferred, and though it is hoped that the transference may eventually be made, it is hardly likely that the removal of the books from the state library to the new organization can be effected without the aid of the legislature, which will not meet for 12 months.

*N. Y. Mercantile L.* (76th rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, '97.) Added 6109; total 255,227. Issued, home use 186,880 (fict. 52.31 %); ref. use 41,540; reading-room attendance 26,626. Membership 5090. Receipts $27,328.48; expenses $26,085.69.

Both reading and reference rooms are used much less in the evening than during the daytime. The evening use, in fact, is so constantly decreasing that the closing of both departments before nine o'clock is suggested. The poster exhibition held Feb. 12, 1896, was most successful.

*N. Y. P. L.— Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* On Feb. 16 Assemblyman Austin introduced into the state legislature a bill providing for the construction of a building in Bryant Park, New York City, to be occupied by the public library. The bill provides that the New York Department of Public Parks shall remove the reservoir and erect within the park a building upon plans to be approved by the trustees of the library. The city is to issue $2,500,000 in four per cent. gold bonds for the removal of the reservoir and the erection of the library building.

The library has recently acquired an interesting and valuable collection of Italian opera libretti, numbering 1300 v., bound in vellum, an average of 10 libretti being bound in each volume. The collection was made by a collector living at the Hague, and it covers a period of 161 years, 1705 to 1865; it will probably be continued to the present time.

*N. Y. Y. M. C. A. L.* An exhibition of fine art books was held at the library on Washington's birthday. It was specially intended to interest and benefit art students, designers, and decorators.

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L. and Athenæum.* (166th rpt.) Added 707; total 42,043. Issued 13,404 (fict. 8908).

The work of cataloging the library has been practically completed, and the greater part of the librarian's report is devoted to an explanation of the catalog and to mention of notable accessions.

*Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) Added 950; total 3700. Issued 27,154, as against 12,501 in the preceding year. New registration 1427.

*Norfolk (Va.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) Added 850; total not given. Issued 15,929 (fict. 13,105); visitors to lib. 35,849. Membership 651, of whom 255 are subscribers. The free list includes all public school scholars above the age of 15, all teachers, ministers, and newspaper editors.

*North Adams (Mass.) P. L.* (13th rpt. — 11 months, Jan. 1-Nov. 30, '96.) Added 613; total 14,480. Issued 63,140 (fict. 52.8 %; juv. 25.7 %). New registration 868; total registration 6810 (teachers' cards 276). Receipts and expenses $3562.81.

The trustees urge that the annual appropriation be increased from $4500 to $5000.

*Norwich, Ct. Otis L.* (Rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '96.) Added 1523; total 20,688. Issued, home use 94,652 (fict. 52.52 %; juv. 22.60 %): New registration 1008; total registration 5756. Receipts $7048.26; expenses $6998.29.

The Sunday opening of the reading-room was the only novelty of the year.

*Pawtucket (R. I.) F. P. L.* (20th rpt. — 10 months ending Sept. 30, '96.) Added 565; total 15,223. Issued 42,074 (fict. 31.457), of which 10,993 were drawn on school cards. New registration 1471. Receipts $7009.20; expenses $6910.55.

Mrs. Sanders's report is a simple record of good work and increasing usefulness, especially in the direction of school influence and growing reference use.

The library has recently issued an attractive little book-mark, bearing the legend "When in doubt on any subject, consult the public library," and inscribed with several appropriate literary quotations. To it is attributed at least a part of the increased crop of questions submitted to the library for answer.

*Philadelphia.* The descendants of botanist John Bartram are planning to establish the John Bartram Memorial Library Company for a free public library in the neighborhood of the Bartram Gardens, Philadelphia.

*Philadelphia F. L.* Mr. Thomson writes: "The library has now the largest circulation in the world, having issued 1,349,070 v. during the year ending Dec. 31, 1896."

The Chestnut Hill branch of the library was opened Feb. 1. This branch was formerly the Christian Hall Library Company of Chestnut Hill, but has now been transferred to the management of the Free Library, which has added about 2000 v. to the 8000 books in the original collection.

*Philadelphia Mercantile L.* (74th rpt. — year ending Jan. 1, '97.) Added 3134; total 179,922. Issued 70,737; no. visitors 285,553 (Sundays and holidays 12,950). Receipts $19,379.22; expenses $17,296.21.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* At a recent board meeting the trustees voted to appropriate $100 for the present year in aid of the work of the A. L. A. Publishing Section. Mr. G. A. Macbeth, chairman of the library committee, introduced the resolution and explained that at the Cleveland meeting of the A. L. A. he had been much impressed with Mr. Iles' plans for the appraisal of literature, and that he thought the work of the Publishing Section deserved the practical support of libraries.

*Portland (Ore.) L. A.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 963; total 23,887. Issued, home use 31,579 (fict. 69.7 %). Membership 582. Receipts, general fund $3575.79, book fund $1877.30; expenses, general fund $3568.02, book fund $1648.96.

"The financial condition of the association has compelled the most rigid economy in current expenses, including reductions in salaries, and it is believed that the directors have gone as far in that direction as possible, without injury to the library.

"Increasing use is being made of the library for purposes of reference and research by members of study clubs and by p ivate students." There has been an increase of 26.6 % over the circulation of the preceding year, and a decrease of 1.2 % in the issue of fiction.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* On Feb. 16 a special meeting of the trustees was held, and it was formally voted to accept the gift of $200,000, made by John Nicholas Brown, for a new library building.

The only conditions imposed by Mr. Brown in connection with his magnificent gift are that the trustees shall raise the $100,000 balance necessary to complete the building already designed, and that they shall have removed all the buildings now situated on the library property where the new structure is to stand. The need of better accommodations for the library have been long before the people of Providence, and have already been presented in the JOURNAL by Mr. Foster (L. J. 21 : 364–368). The structure planned to meet the needs of the library, was, however, much beyond the means at the disposal of the trustees, and the only course practicable seemed to be the construction of a part of the building, cramping and injuring its full usefulness.

In the spring of 1890 Mr. Foster issued an appeal to the people of Providence, reciting these facts and asking subscriptions toward the necessary $300,000, but only $1013 was received in response. Now Mr. Brown's generosity removes the difficulties and clears the way to the establishment of the library in a spacious, fitting, and permanent home.

*Quincy (Ill.) F. P. L.* The circulation for January, 7802, was the largest for one month in the history of the library. The Quincy Medical Association on Feb. 10 made application for a room in the library, in which they would be glad to establish a medical library for reference use. The application was granted, and the association has put its collection in charge of the library.

*Richmond, Va. Rosemary L.* The trustees announce that unless more subscribers are secured for the library, and its income is materially increased by June 1, it will be necessary to close it for lack of funds on that date. The library was established in 1891, with an endowment of $4000 from Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page; membership dues were fixed at $3 yearly. Its receipts have never exceeded $1000 a year, and its expenses amount to about $1800.

*Salem (Mass.) P. L.* (8th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 2371; total 33,078. 2330 v. have been bound at a total cost of $1038.15, an average of 44½ c. per v. Issued, home use 109,117 (fict. 84.62 %); reading-room attendance 50,000. There are now 179 periodicals on file, of which 22 are gifts. Receipts $16,606 05; expenses $12,441.74.

"Feeling it important that the needs of the library should be known so that any person or persons who may contemplate giving or bequeathing money to the library may be able to tell just what direction such gift should take, the trustees present with this report a plan for an addition to the library building which, in their opinion, will be satisfactory to the public using the library and which can be economically conducted and be reasonably safe against fire." Three plans are shown, one for each floor, by which provision is made for housing 100,000 v., instead of as at present 35,000, for a reference-room with space for 15,000 v. for a class or study room, and for a women's or children's reading-room. The cost of this addition is estimated at $50,000.

*Scranton (Pa.) P. L.* (6th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 3157; total 27,943. Issued, home use 155,072 (fict. and juv. 79.81 %); ref. use 4102. New registration 3846; total cards in use 8366. Receipts, $11,533; expenses $10,716.82.

*Sheboygan, Wis.* The common council on Feb. 15 passed an ordinance providing that seven per cent. of all license money received be used to establish a free public library. The late James H. Mead bequeathed $20,000 to be used for a free library by the city. This money is invested, and when it becomes available, will be used in aid of the library.

*Washington, D. C. Crandall public document bill.* In the Washington *Post* of Feb. 23 a communication was printed from Mr. Pitman Pulsifer, private secretary of Senator Hale and clerk of the committee on printing, opposing the provisions of Mr. Crandall's bill "to improve the printing and binding methods of the public documents," on the ground that what it seeks to accomplish is already provided for by the existing law, passed Jan. 12, 1895. Mr. Crandall, in the *Post* of Feb. 25, answers this letter fully, reciting the insufficiency of existing provisions and describing the short and simple solution of the difficulties supplied by the proposed bill. This solution lies in "taking the executive reports and serial works out of the numbered series of the congressional documents. It is true there is no law for this numbering, but it is a very ancient custom, and if Congress refuses to take the responsibility of abolishing it, is it reasonable to expect the Public Printer to do so?" The results of the present system, "which make the public documents grotesquely unusable and an affront to the intelligence of the country, will, in all probability, never be cured until Congress enacts positive prohibitory legislation of the kind embodied in the so-called Crandall bill."

*Washington (D. C.) F. L.* (1st rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) "The library was opened to the public on Jan. 6, 1896, with 3151 v.; there were added during the year 5380 v., making the total number now in the library 8351." The registration amounts to 6666 persons. There were issued for home use 83,066 v. (fict. 77%), and 636 non-fiction cards are in use. After the first few months free access was given to all books, a concession that has proved "beneficial to the public and economical to the library." Only one book is unaccounted for. There are two travelling libraries in use, one of 100 v. loaned to the Y. M. C. A., the other, 30 v., in use by the Workingmen's Club. "These volumes are loaned under the most liberal conditions, being issued on a single card which is renewed every 14 days. The association borrowing the volumes (which are in all cases duplicates) is not required to keep an exact record of the circulation and is not held responsible for the loss of any volume, it being believed that losses of this character, unavoidable even under the best management, will be compensated for by the resultant good from the circulation of the volumes."

Gen. Greely, president of the association, says: "It cannot fail to be a source of gratification, and especially of wonder, that this association, beginning its active work Jan. 6, 1896, in two small rented rooms, with only 3151 books, mostly gifts, should in the first year circulate upwards of 100,000 volumes. No effort was made to stimulate the circulation; indeed, the small number of volumes at the beginning constrained the board of trustees to decline the issuance of non-fiction and teachers' cards, for fear that the ordinary demands could not be met by the stock in hand. From month to month, however, through generous friends, the number of books grew steadily, keeping pace with the registration and the demand for literature. It thus resulted that from average daily loans of 113 volumes in January, from a stock of 3721 volumes, the issues of the library rose almost uninterruptedly to an average of 416 volumes daily from a stock of 8270 volumes in November. At the end of the year, much to the surprise of every one, and not the least to the board of trustees, it appeared that the total use of the library had aggregated 100,446 volumes; that the average daily circulation had been 333.7 volumes; that the number of persons registered as borrowers reached 6666; that the number of volumes in the library had increased to 8531, and that there was a surplus in the treasury sufficient to pay the expenses of the opening month of 1897."

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* On Feb. 10 two clerks employed in the Congressional Library were arrested by the Secret Service officers, charged with theft of many of the most valuable autograph letters and documents deposited in the library. The men arrested, Philip McElhone and Lewis McK. Turner, were committed to jail in default of $3000 bail. The robberies, it has been ascertained, were effected by means of duplicate keys, and have been in progress, it is said, since last August. The room in which the stolen documents were kept was one of the upper chambers of the library, and the confusion incident to the change of quarters to the new building is believed to have facilitated the thefts. One of the most important documents stolen was a diary of George Washington of 1784, and a letter of inquiry concerning this, received from a New York dealer to whom it had been offered, was the means of revealing the whole affair. This dealer had a short time previously received a letter offering for sale certain autograph letters. Later two young men called upon him and he made some purchases. After this there was further communication, and then came an offer of the Washington diary. He became suspicious and wrote a letter to one of the senators, inquiring if any of the government's collection of documents were missing. The senator replied negatively, apparently not concerning himself much about the inquiry. This did not satisfy the dealer, whose suspicion was further aroused by the low price put on the diary. The Secretary of the Treasury was written to, and at last the Secret Service officers started to investigate. Inquiry at the different departments showed that nothing of the nature described had been stolen. Then the detectives went to the capitol and an examination of the autograph files by Librarian Spofford resulted in the discovery that nearly 100 documents were missing. Proofs were finally traced to Turner and McElhone, who were described by the New York dealer, and both men, on examination, admitted having offered the documents for sale, but said that they had not abstracted them from the library. A number of the stolen documents, 350 in all, were returned to Chief Hazen, of the Secret Service,

from his officers in New York on Feb. 16, having been recovered from the various dealers and other persons who had bought them from Turner and McElhone. The actual number of documents stolen has not yet been stated. It is said that a special congressional committee will be appointed to investigate the matter.

*Williamsburg, Mass. Meekins L.* The library building given to the town of Williamsburg by the late Stephen Meekins was dedicated on the evening of Feb. 1. The exercises were held at the Congregational church. The building, which cost about $12,000, is one story, 40 by 50 feet, and of classic design. The exterior walls are of rock-faced granite with Ohio sandstone trimmings. Entrance to the main hall is through a lobby with polished granite columns on each side. The main hall is in the centre of the building, 22 feet long and 12 feet wide, covered by a dome and ceiling light of stained glass. To the right of this hall is the stack-room, 16 by 30 feet and 12 feet high, this being the uniform height of all the rooms. The stacks are built to accommodate 10,000 volumes, but they can be raised and the capacity doubled. At the further end of the hall is the private office of the librarian, 10 by 12 feet. At the left of the front entrance is the reading-room, 22 by 16 feet, and back of this is the reference-room, 15 by 16 feet. The rooms are lighted with large plate-glass windows, which have ornamental transoms of stained glass. The building is heated with hot air and lighted with gas. In the basement is the town vault. The library starts work with about 8000 v., 2400 of which were transferred from the local library association.

*FOREIGN.*

*Aberdeen (Scotl.) P. L.* (12th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '96.) Added 1938; total 45,221 (21,104 in ref. dept.). Issued, home use 199,500 (fict. 50.93%); ref. use 15,769; reading-room 52,529. There were 8398 borrowers' tickets issued, of which 676 were extra non-fiction cards.

The plan of allowing free access to a large collection of books in the reference-room has worked well, and has led to the exhibition, for choice and examination in open cases, of all new books added to the various departments. Electric light was installed in the library building during the year.

"Since January the library has been recognized as a branch of the Emigrants' Information Office, established at Westminster under the direction of the Colonial Office for the purpose of supplying intending emigrants with accurate and trustworthy information respecting the colonies. The result has been the dissemination of a large number of governmental circulars and handbooks, and there is reason to think that in this way a considerable service has been rendered to many in the town and surrounding districts."

*Frankfort-on-Main.* The library of Gustav Freytag was recently purchased by Leopold Sonneman, proprietor of the *Frankfürter Zeitung*, and presented by him to the City Library of Frankfort. The collection includes over 6000 v., and is especially rich in German history, philology, and literature from the 15th century to modern times. The library is to be kept as a separate collection and will be known as the Gustav Freytag Library.

*Johannesburg, South Africa.* The Johannesburg Public Library will soon remove to a fine new building, which has been in process of construction for some time past, and which will cost $100,000. Its present quarters are cramped and inadequate.

*Leipzig.* The library of the late Prof. Émile Du Bois Reymond, of Berlin, has recently been put upon the market by Gustave Fock, of Leipzig. The collection comprises about 14,000 volumes and pamphlets relating to physiology, physics, philosophy, and allied sciences; many of them contain comments and annotations by Prof. Du Bois Reymond. It includes also a number of valuable sets of scientific journals and series. The collection is priced at 22,000 m.

G. Hedeler, of Leipzig, offers for sale a fine private collection of works on electricity, gathered since 1850 by a well-known electrician and engineer. It contains 2000 books and about 5000 pamphlets and periodicals, and is rich in publications relating to early telegraphy; of recent issues it includes only rarer and more expensive works. The collection is fully cataloged.

## Practical Notes.

PRESERVATION OF BOUND NEWSPAPERS. The following label is used on all volumes of bound newspapers in the *Boston Athenæum:*

**HANDLE WITH GREAT CARE.**

1. The paper on which newspapers are printed is generally of poor quality and grows brittle with age.

2. Most newspapers are difficult or impossible to replace if worn or injured, and, unlike other publications, they will never be reprinted. Only a very small number of copies exist anywhere.

3. Future generations of readers have a claim on these volumes, which should be respected.

**THEREFORE**

**HANDLE CAREFULLY.**

Mr. Lane says, regarding this new device, "It seems to us of the highest importance that newspaper volumes, of which there are so few duplicates in existence, and which are printed on particularly poor paper, should be handled with special regard to their perishable nature and the importance of preserving them."

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Battle Creek, Mich.* By the will of Charles Willard, who died on Feb. 1, the sum of $40,000 is bequeathed to Battle Creek for a public library.

*Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.* By the will of the late Peter Kerlen, of St. Thomas, Pa, the library of Franklin and Marshall College will receive about $10,000 as an endowment for the purchase of books. This is the second gift the library of the college has received this year, the first being the De Peyster library building, work on which has already begun.

*University of Texas, Austin.* On Feb. 22, Swante Palm, of Austin, presented to the university library his valuable private library of 25,000 v. Mr. Palm, who was born in Sweden in 1815, has lived in Texas for 53 years, and for the past 31 years has been Swedish vice-consul in Austin; in 1883 King Oscar of Sweden conferred upon him the order of Knights of Warsaw. His library is a miscellaneous collection, with a special tendency toward works on art.

*Winona, Minn.* On Feb. 6, W. H. Laird, of Winona, offered to present to the city of Winona a public library building to cost $40,000, on condition that the city furnish the site, and also increase the tax levy for the support of the library from ⅝ of a mill to one mill for a period of 10 years, the tax levy after that period to be never less than ½ mill.

## Librarians.

BULLOCK, Miss Edna Dean, of the New York State Library School, class of '94, has recently gone to Nebraska City, Neb., to organize the public library and supervise its arrangement in the new quarters provided by Mr. Joy Morton. Mrs. W. M. Cornutt has been elected librarian.

BURCHARD, E. L., librarian of the Field Columbian Museum, of Chicago, has recently severed his connection with that institution, and Mr. Juul Dieserud, formerly assistant librarian, has received the appointment as his successor. Mr. Dieserud holds three degrees from the Royal University of Christiania, Norway, where for years he applied himself to the study of philology, ancient and modern. He has been with Mr. Burchard as his only assistant since the opening of the museum. The library now numbers 8000 books and about the same number of pamphlets, all on scientific subjects.

DAVIS, Miss Florence, has been appointed librarian of the Rockville (Ct.) Free Library, succeeding Miss Keating, resigned. Miss Davis has had several years' experience in the Hartford (Ct.) Public Library.

DELAP-SUTERMEISTER. Miss Louise M. Sutermeister, librarian of the Eau Claire (Wis.) Public Library, was married on Dec. 24, 1896, to Silas Charles Delap, of Kansas City, Mo. Miss Sutermeister is a graduate of the New York State Library School, class of '90.

DYCHE-BENNETT. On Feb. 11, Miss May L. Bennett, of the Armour Institute Library staff, was married to William A. Dyche, mayor of Evanston, Ill. Miss Bennett was a member of the New York State Library School, class of '94 (undergraduate), and was active in library work in Chicago, being for over a year secretary of the Chicago Library Club.

MACK, Miss Katharine M., for two years assistant-in-charge of the Astral branch of the Pratt Institute Free Library, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library of Westfield, N. Y.

METCALF, Miss Anna, librarian of the Harris Institute Library of Woonsocket, R. I., has been granted six months' leave of absence for foreign travel. She will go abroad on March 31, and will spend much of the summer in Germany. During her absence Miss Ama H. Ward, of Amherst, Mass., will have charge of the Institute library.

ROBBINS, Miss Mary E., of the New York State Library School, class of '92, is arranging and cataloging the Port Jervis (N. Y.) Free Library.

STOCKWELL, George W. C., of the New York State Library School, class of '95 (undergraduate), is cataloging and classifying the Y. M. C. A. Library of Ware, Mass.

## Cataloging and Classification.

ALDEN, H. W. The decimal index in the drafting-room. (In *American Machinist*, Feb. 4, 1897, 20 : 99.) 4½ col.

Mr. Alden describes his method of indexing drawings and patterns. "I do not propose the adoption of that part of Mr. Dewey's classification devoted to mechanical engineering, because it is far too general in its nature at present, and not sufficiently subdivided. The work of any drafting-room forms too small a part of the general subject of mechanical engineering to permit the use of even a perfect classification of that subject, as the subdivisions would have to be carried too far."

BRÜMMER, Franz. Lexikon der deutschen Dichter und Prosaisten der 19. Jahrhunderts. 4th ed., enl. Leipzig, Reclam, 1896. 2 v., 477, 455 p. (Reclam's Universal Bibl., nos. 1981–1990 and 3531–3540.) cl. 5 m.

Contains biographies of 4800 authors, an increase of 1400 over those in the third edition. The list of pseudonyms also has been considerably enlarged.

CARNEGIE F. L., *Allegheny, Pa.* Catalogue of fiction: Supplement no. 1, including additions from Jan., 1895, to Jan., 1897. Authors–titles. 58 p. O.

In the preface Mr. Stevenson explains his

reasons for withdrawing from circulation some of the trashier class of novels; following is a "list of books no longer on the shelves," in which is recorded the names of the authors who have been dropped. These include Alger, "Robert Appleton," C. M. Braeme, "G. Colmore," Martha Finley, May Agnes Fleming, Fosdick ("Harry Castlemon"), A. C. Gunter, Mrs. Holmes, E. P. Roe, L. Rousselet, Mrs. Southworth, Mrs. Terhune ("Marion Harland"), Augusta Evans Wilson, Virginia Woods.

The CARNEGIE L. (*Pittsburgh*) *Bulletin* for February contains a short reading list (2 p.) on Richard Wagner.

A CHURCH reference library. (In *Outlook*, Feb. 20, 1897, 55 : 548.) 2 p.

A classified comprehensive list of books helpful to Sunday-school teachers and others interested in Bible study.

DENVER (*Colo.*) P. L. has recently issued "Trades Assembly list no. 1," a list of books, magazines, articles, etc., dealing with the history of labor unions (53 titles), of which copies have been distributed to 2000 members of local labor unions. "Trades Assembly list no. 2" relates to money, banking, bimetallism, etc., and includes 131 titles; it is compiled by F. D. Tandy. The report of the teachers' institute held in Denver, Oct. 31, 1896, compiled by Mr. Dana and published by School District no. 1, Denver, contains, p. 42–52, an interesting "list of books on drawing, art, and allied subjects in the Public Library."

LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for February contains Reference list no. 3, on municipal government (9 p.).

NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for February contains Reference list no. 19, on William Hamilton Gibson.

N. Y. F. L. OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS AND TRADESMEN. Monthly bulletin of new books, no. 1: additions during January–February, 1897.

N. Y. MERCANTILE L. Bulletin of new books, no. 17, October, 1896. 44 p. O.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for February contains among other interesting notes a 6-p. list of "periodicals relating to language and philology in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library."

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* continues in its February number the excellent series of reading notes on English history from Edward I. to Richard II.

The OTIS L. (*Norwich, Ct.*) *Bulletin* for January has a short reference list on the History of the Christian Church, compiled at the request of a local Epworth League. In the February number is a short reading list on English literature, to be used in connection with the series of lectures on the subject delivered by Mr. Richard Burton.

PATERSON (*N. J.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for January contains reference lists on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, and a classed list on Italian painting supplied with brief critical notes by Prof. J. C. Van Dyke, of Rutgers College.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for February contains reference lists 41 and 42, on "Mendelssohn and the oratorio of Elijah," and "Schubert," and special catalog no. 11, listing additions to the "School duplicate collection."

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* devotes its chief special reading list in the February number to London; there are also short lists on Philip Gilbert Hamerton and the Best books of 1895: literature.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for February lists all the German books in the library, and has also a short reading list on Cuba.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for February has a special classed list on Germany, embracing history, biography, historical fiction, travel, literature, and art (6 p.).

### *CHANGED TITLES.*

"The land o' the leal," by David Lyall, [Dodd, N. Y.], is the same as "Heather from the brae," by David Lyall [Revell, N. Y.], except that it has three additional stories, and the stories are differently grouped. Is there no way of stopping such frauds upon the public? JOHN EDMANDS.

### *FULL NAMES.*

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Camp, Cyrus Carpenter (Labor, capital, and money; their just relations);

Farnham, Amos W: (Oswego normal method of teaching geography);

Franceschi, Francesco (Santa Barbara exotic flora);

Giffin, W: Milford (Supplementary work in arithmetic. Pt. I. Lines);

Howe, Herbert Alonzo (Elements of descriptive astronomy);

Howell, Edwin Cull, *and* Young, Franklin Knowles (The minor tactics of chess);

Jackson, Robert Tracy (Methods of labelling trees and plants);

Kelsey, Francis Willey (The Presbyterian church and the University of Michigan);

Lighthill, E: Bunford, *and* August P. (A popular treatise on deafness);

Pidgin, C: Felton (The lord of the sea);

Smith, J: L. (Mapa de la isla de Cuba);

Wenley, Robert M: (Contemporary theology and theism);

Wetmore, C: A: (Treatise on wine production);

Wright, C: Herbert, *and* Wing, C: B: (A manual of bridge drafting).

Spahr, C: Barzillai, Ph.D., author of "An essay on the present distribution of wealth in the United States." N. Y. [c. 1896.] W: J. J.

## Bibliography.

ANATOMY. Bibliographie anatomique: Revue des travaux en langue française: Anatomie, histologie, embryologie, anthropologie; direction: A. Nicolas. Année 1897. Paris, Berger-Levrault & Cie., 1897. 8°. 10 fr.

AUSTEN, Jane. Adams, Oscar Fay. The story of Jane Austen's life. New ed., il. Bost., Lee & Shepard, 1897. 280 p. D. $2.

Contains 7-p. bibliography, of writings by and about Miss Austen (p. 259–265).

BARNARD, Henry. Monroe, Will S. Bibliography of Henry Barnard. (*In Journal of Education: New England and National*, Feb. 16, 1897, 45: 95.) 3 col.

The titles are arranged as follows:

1. Publications by Henry Barnard.
   a. Official reports and documents, . 4 titles
   b. Editorial and journalistic work, 6 "
   c. Monographs and addresses, . . 9 "
2. Publications relating to Henry Barnard.
   a. American, . . . . . 74 "
   b. European, . . . . . 20 "

ENTOMOLOGY. Henshaw, S: Bibliography of the more important contributions to American economic entomology; prepared by authority of the Secretary of Agriculture. Part 5: The more important writings of government and state entomologists and of other contributors to the literature of American economic entomology, L–Z. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1896. 180 p. O.

FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR. Palat, *Commandant*. Bibliographie générale de la guerre de 1870–71: Répertoire alphabétique et raisonné des publications de toute nature concernant la guerre franco-allemande parues en France et à l'étranger. Paris, Berger-Levrault & Cie., 1897. 600 p. 8°. 15 fr.

GEOLOGY. Catalogue des bibliographies géologiques; rédigé, avec le concours des membres de la Commission bibliographique du Congrès, par Emm. de Margerie. Paris, Gauthier-Villars et Fils, 1896. 20 + 733 p. Reviewed in *Science*, Jan. 29, 1897.

GEOLOGY. Watson, T. L. Bibliography of the geological, mineralogical, and palæontological literature of the state of Virginia. 110 p. 8°, pap. Ithaca, N. Y., 1897, (Bulletins of American palæontology, vol. 2, no. 7.)

GREECE. Legrand, Emile. Bibliographie hellénique; ou, description raisonnée des ouvrages publiés par les Grecs au XVII^e siècle. Tome IV. Paris, Alphonse Picard & Fils, 1897. 540 p. 8°. [Complete work, 4 v., 100 fr.]

MINERVA: Jahrbuch der gelehrten Welt. Herausg. von K: Trübner. 6 Jahrg., 1896–1897. Por. of J. de Goeje, etched by Therese Schwartze in Amsterdam. Strassburg, Karl J. Trübner, 1897. 24+1082 p. 32°. 8 m.

The volume now assumes an international character, inasmuch as it includes foreign learned societies.

PHYSIOLOGY. Richet, Ch. Bibliographia physiologica, 1895. Répertoire des travaux de physiologie de l'année 1895, classé d'après la classification décimale. Paris, Félix Alcan, 1896. 115 p. 8°. 3.50 fr.

SOCIOLOGY. Stammhammer, J. Bibliographie der Social-Politik. Jena, Gust. Fischer, 1896. 648 p. 8°. 18 m.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL. FOULCHÉ-DELBOSC, R. Bibliographie des voyages en Espagne et en Portugal. Paris, H. Welter, 1896. 353 p. 8°. 12 fr.

SWINBURNE, A. C. Literary anecdotes of the nineteenth century: a contribution toward a literary history of the period; ed. by W. Robertson Nicoll and T. J. Wise. v. 2. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co., 1897. 8°, *subs.*, $8.

Incl. a bibliographical list of the scarcer works and uncollected writings of Swinburne, p. 288–374.

*INDEXES.*

FLETCHER, W: I:, *and* Bowker, R: R., *eds.* The annual literary index, 1896: including periodicals, American and English; essays, book-chapters, etc.; with author-index, bibliographies, necrology, and index to dates of principal events; ed. with the co-operation of members of the American Library Association and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL staff. N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1897. 344 p. O. $3.50.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

*Ruth Ogden.* — The real name of the author of "His little royal highness" is Mrs. Frances Otis (Ogden) Ide. Mrs. Ide is the wife of Mr. Charles W. Ide, of Brooklyn. E. R. NEISSER.

CORRECTION. — Cushing's "Initials and pseudonyms," vol. 1, p. 285, col. 2.

Traveler, A. C. Mrs. H. K. W. Clarke.

J. C. ROWELL.

# IMPERFECT SETS.

Recognizing the importance of periodical literature in modern libraries, THE BOSTON BOOK COMPANY established its Library Department with the idea that a definite service could be rendered overworked librarians by an intelligent effort to supply them with sets of periodicals and Society transactions *bibliographically complete* and *materially perfect.*

Under the old method, librarians were forced to buy such sets or parts of sets as appeared on booksellers' catalogues, or were privately offered to them, taking their chances as to the completeness or perfectness of the sets. Before the publication of "Poole's Index" the shortcomings of such a mode of purchase were not apparent, because the deficiencies in sets so bought were not brought to special notice; but in these days of thorough indexing the constant showing up of tantalizing defects obliges the conscientious librarian to assume the labor of collation, and the subsequent vexatious time and money cost involved in trying to make the defects good.

It is exactly this burdensome and wasteful labor which THE BOSTON BOOK COMPANY has endeavored to save librarians, by supplying only sets which have passed through the hands of a conscientious and carefully trained staff of collators

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JUDGMENT RENDERED by the Tribunal of Commerce of the Seine of June 4, 1896,

Between **Mr. Stechert (Gustave E.)**, Bookseller, residing at **9 E. 16th St., New York,**

And **Mr. H. Welter**, Bookseller, residing at **59 Rue Bonaparte, Paris.**

The Tribunal of Commerce of the Seine, after having deliberated in accordance with the law, has rendered judgment as follows:

WHEREAS by writ of June 17, 1895, Stechert alleges that at various times Welter had referred to him in libellous terms in his catalogues and circulars addressed by the latter to his customers;

WHEREAS these actions constitute disloyal competition, for which Stechert is justified in asking satisfaction, and he would therefore be entitled to claim:

1. 40,000 francs damages for prejudice suffered.

2. The insertion of the judgment to be rendered in 25 newspapers, at Welter's cost, each insertion, however, not to exceed 150 francs.

3. The authorization to distribute 10.000 copies of the said judgment, and payment by Welter of a sum of 1000 francs to pay the expense thereof.

WHEREAS by writ of January 9, 1896, Stechert claims in addition:

10,000 francs as supplementary damages to indemnify himself for the new disloyal action of Welter, through which Stechert has suffered.

The insertion of the judgment in 35 newspapers at the plaintiff's choice.

The authorization to distribute 20,000 copies of the said judgment and payment by Welter of 2000 francs to cover the expenses thereof.

As to the general findings:

WHEREAS Welter in defence of these claims maintains:

That he himself has suffered numerous disloyal actions on the part of Stechert.

That he only published the statements complained of in order to defend himself against the Plaintiff.

That the latter cannot complain of Welter having acted against him in a way which he, Stechert, had initiated.

That under these circumstances the Plaintiff cannot ask for any judgment against him, but

WHEREAS Welter does not in any way prove the disloyal manner of acting of Stechert of which he complains;

That, moreover, in case proof of such action could be given, it would not justify him for having used the same methods against his opponent, no one having a right to take the law in his own hands;

WHEREAS it results from the trial, the arguments, and from the documents furnished that Welter, in his catalogue No. 49, 1891, a large quantity of which were distributed among the customers of Stechert, invites the said customers to apply directly to him, denouncing the bookseller G. E. St., of New York, having a branch in London, as having used disloyal methods towards him;

WHEREAS, although the initials only of the name of Stechert had been given, the people of the trade who had received the catalogue in question, could not mistake the person mentioned therein;

WHEREAS in 1894 Welter sent to the American customers of Stechert a postal card marked with a stamp at the top and bottom of the card, requesting the person to whom it was addressed not to order from Stechert the books mentioned on it, but to send their orders directly to him (Welter) or through a confidential agent.

WHEREAS on the other hand on December 13, 1895, Welter caused to be distributed to the public and to the booksellers of Paris with whom he was in business relations, a circular, in which he accused Stechert, without however naming him, but indicating him plainly, of having taken away from him several orders;

WHEREAS these acts have had the effect and result of drawing away to the benefit of Welter a part of the Plaintiff's customers;

That they have injured the commercial reputation of the latter, that they constitute methods of disloyal competition, causing Stechert harm and damage for which Welter owes him compensation.

WHEREAS the Tribunal finds in these facts of the suit sufficient elements of appreciation to fix at 1000 francs the amount of the injury suffered by Stechert, and it is proper to accept the claims of the latter for the payment of damages to the amount of the above-mentioned sum;

WHEREAS on the other hand, besides the material damage suffered by Stechert, the latter has a right to a reparation of the damage which he has endured;

That Welter, having given publicity to his attacks on Stechert, the latter should be authorized to publish in fifteen French and foreign newspapers, at his choice, the judgment to be rendered, the cost of each of which insertions not to exceed the sum of 100 francs.

That the other parts of the two claims for the insertions are to be rejected, as also the claim requesting the distribution of the circular reproducing the judgment to be rendered at the expense of Welter, the latter mode being identical with the demand for the insertions which shall be granted.

*For these reasons, after reading the report of the referee of the Court sitting in last instance, condemns Welter to pay to Stechert the sum of One thousand francs as damages, authorizes Stechert to have the present judgment inserted in fifteen French and foreign papers at the expense of Welter, each insertion not to exceed 100 francs, dismissing Stechert's further claims, and condemns Welter to pay the costs.*

I, the undersigned, sworn translator of the Tribunal Civil of the Seine, certify herewith that the present is a true translation of the here annexed original.

Paris, 28th day of January, 1897.

[SEAL.] (Signed) L. SPRENGEL.

Vu par nous, Maire du 1er Arrondissement de Paris pour législation de la signature de M. Sprengel, Expert Traducteur-Juré auprès du Tribunal Civil de la Seine.

[SEAL.]

Paris, le 28 Janv., 1497.

Signature (illegible).

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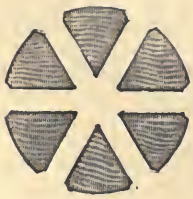

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*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. APRIL, 1897. No. 4

THE organization in the National Educational Association of a library section marks a notable advance in the relations between schools and libraries, and a great step forward in education. A first fruit of this was the round table discussion on libraries and schools at the February meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the N. E. A. at Indianapolis, and at the general conference of the association in Milwaukee in July this section will hold its first regular annual meeting. Each year the relations between libraries and schools have become closer, until now this relationship is thus officially recognized. The teacher, from his point of view, has been reaching out into the library field by the aid of "supplementary reading" and like methods, while the librarian on his part has been seeking to extend his field of usefulness from the adults through the ranks of the children, large and small. Each profession naturally emphasizes its part of this joint work of education. But let not the librarian magnify his office. His work is distinctively supplementary to that of the teacher while the child is at school, and in a wider sense supplementary of the school work after school years throughout life. Like the profession of the teacher, the profession of the librarian is a worthy and dignified calling, needing no exaggeration of its functions to emphasize its work. Perhaps this word of caution is not unneeded, because it is only within a few years that the real worthfulness of the library calling has been appreciated, and the emphasis of its importance can easily go a bit too far. Taken together, the profession of education, which embraces both the callings of the teacher and the librarian, does so great a work in moulding the future, especially in a democratic country like our own, that the value of its work cannot be overestimated.

---

A QUESTION in school relations often asked is how the teacher, or the scholar, can do any more work, in reading or otherwise, in the 24 hours still allotted to the day in the order of the universe. The question is not to be stated quite in this way. The problem is one not of addition, but of selection. Ruskin says, "Do you know, if you read this, that you cannot read that?"—and here is the whole solution. The field of knowledge has vastly broadened within the generation past, and yet it has been found that the number of facts to be learned is less rather than more. Nature interlinks her works, and her knowledges, so that a student learns now by principles rather than by details — no longer in history the names of the popes or of the revolutionary battles, or in geography a list of the cities in a given state, but the general course of events and the outline maps of the country, into which individual facts can be fitted as needed. This should be the key to the reading work of the teacher and the specific library work in the schools. The use of tools is a large part of educational equipment, and here a knowledge of books, and of bibliography, the key to books, becomes important. If a child is taught how to get at facts, this is worth ten times as much as an attempt to crowd the brain with facts, and it can be done with one-tenth the labor and in one-tenth the time, if it be done properly.

---

ONE of the most valuable features, therefore, of library education in the schools should be a knowledge of library aids by the teacher and by the scholar. It is too much to expect that such more or less costly books as the "American Catalogue," Poole's "Index," Fletcher's "A. L. A. Index," Sonnenschein's "Best books," etc., should be in each school library, or that schools should be able to subscribe to the "Annual catalogue," the "Annual literary index," containing the continuation of the Poole and Fletcher lists, the monthly "Cumulative index" of Mr. Brett (which indexes monthly not 30 books, as stated in error by Mr. Peoples in the February L. J., but 75), the LIBRARY JOURNAL, the *Publishers' Weekly*, etc. But the teacher should know and should inform his pupils just how to use these tools as found in the library. On the other hand, such publications as the "List of books for girls and women"—really a select and annotated bibliography of the best books on all subjects—the annotated list of books on fine art and music, expanding one division of that work, the "Readers' guide" in political economy, the Sargent and Hewins lists of books for children, etc., etc., all of them moderate in price, should be in most school li-

braries. Moreover, the teacher directly, or by proxy of the librarian, should teach a child how to use reference books and how to browse among other books for himself, so that the "information clerk" in the library, useful as that official is, would be a "guide, philosopher, and friend," rather than a labor-saving machine. But bibliography is never to be confused with the real use of books: it is only the box of tools ready at the hand of the worker, for real work.

---

THE "tariff on ideas," as the New York *Tribune* puts it, *i.e.*, those provisions in the Dingley bill imposing a duty of 25 per cent. on books hitherto imported free, has been taken throughout the country as an affront to education and intelligence; and the authorities at Washington have already received an avalanche of protests from educational institutions of all kinds, as well as from libraries. Every library and every teacher is interested in this question, and so far as state and local associations and individuals have not yet acted, each should address some kind of protest to senators and representatives against the proposed tax on knowledge. The resolutions of members of the American Library Association, printed elsewhere, state the case fairly and fully, and furnish an excellent model or suggestion for such action.

---

IN view of the excellent work done by the Superintendent of Documents, Mr. Crandall, since under the new law he accepted that post, there should be no doubt of his retention in the public service. Mr. Crandall was not the candidate of the library people for this post, and was not supported by the LIBRARY JOURNAL, in that his appointment at the time was regarded as a political one. But he took hold of the work with such broad-minded vigor, has organized his office with such intelligence and skill, and has altogether done so well that he has proved himself the man for the place. The position is one which should not be the football of party politics, and the country would be the better served for the next four years if Mr. Crandall's experience could be utilized by keeping him where he is. Librarians should be quick to make known the sentiment of the profession in this matter by sending to the new Public Printer, Frank W. Palmer, prompt letters of protest against such action as now, unfortunately, seems possible.

## Communications.

### *REFERENCE NOTES ON CATALOG CARDS.*

AN appreciable saving in time, money, and duplicated effort could be made, where a large library is cataloged upon cards, if an abbreviated guide to the biography or bibliography or other source or sources followed in giving the form to the entry, were entered upon the back of the author card.

This entry could direct intelligent users of the catalog, promptly and unfailingly, to the best biographical notice of the author; and it would save the cataloger a great deal of the useless, wearisome, and disappointing labor of search in places where a notice is presumably or possibly to be found, but where none will be found.

Is it not evident how much more securely and quickly the cataloger can progress if he knows upon what foundation his predecessor in the current catalog built, and is able to avoid duplicating his search — on the contrary, has a marked trail before him to follow?

The librarian, in utilizing to its utmost work done, by having it once and for all recorded, and in eliminating blind or blundering repetition of search for a large percentage of new accessions, will be, in a sense, "striking from the calendar, unknown to-morrow and dead yesterday," and reducing his year to better reckoning.

MARY IMOGEN CRANDALL.

### *A WORD TO CATALOGERS.*

IT may seem a late appeal for a change in an adopted practice, but the usual manner of cataloging pseudonyms is open to serious criticism. Such an author-name is as indivisible as the title of the fiction it introduces. Both are fictitious, and neither is known in any other order than that on the title-page. There is no Mr. Twain, Mr. Craddock, and so on. It is nonsense to print a directory transposition as a guide to names which exist in the thought in quite another order. It would be quite as reasonable to *directory* titles, and print in our catalogs "Copperfield, David"; "Feverel, Richard, The ordeal of," etc.

It is a little late to suggest such a correction, but not so late as it will be five years hence. I present it for discussion at any rate.

WM. CURTIS TAYLOR.

RIDLEY PARK, PA.

---

### *PUBLISHING NOTE.*

IT is regretted that pressure of other matter has made it necessary to defer the publication of Mr. Foster's paper on "Developing a taste for good literature" until the May number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. Other articles in a measure supplementing the topics presented in the present School number, will also appear in later issues.

## WORK BETWEEN LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS—A SYMPOSIUM.

### *AT WORCESTER, MASS.*

By Samuel Swett Green, *Librarian Free Public Library, Worcester.*

In the year 1879 systematic efforts were made to bring about a close connection between the public library and the grammar schools of the city of Worcester.

The objects of the efforts were twofold, namely: to afford aid to teachers and scholars in making studies more interesting and profitable, and to raise the standard of the reading of children.

For several years previous to 1879 there had been intimate relations between the library and the high school, the normal school, and collegiate institutions.

Certain obstacles have been encountered in doing school-work, but they have been overcome, and this work has grown into large proportions. To-day, during the colder months of the year, 2000 volumes belonging to the library are in use in school-rooms or homes under the supervision of teachers every day that schools are open.

There is, of course, a large use of books by children additional to the school use. The general use is looked after at the library with care. There seems to be but one opinion among the teachers of Worcester regarding the usefulness of the work. Work of this kind is facilitated and rendered large when, as is the case in Worcester, it is encouraged by the superintendent of schools.

Besides the work done with books sent to school-houses, there is a very large use by children for school purposes of books within the library building. Pupils are there taught how to use books in getting information, and, in large numbers, make little investigations there every day.

At first books were taken by scholars to and from school-houses in lined baskets provided by the school department. Now the superintendent of schools sends a wagon to every school-building once in two weeks to bring away books that are to be returned and to carry books which are wanted.

A large use is made in doing school-work of exhibitions of pictures in the library building. The walls of a lecture-hall are covered at one time with photographs, etchings, etc., illustrative of the civil war, the time selected being that at which the pupils have just finished studying about the later portions of American history. The scenes in which Shakespeare moved, fac-similes of the earliest editions of his works, and views of London and its famous places in the time of Addison are shown at times when interest is alive in the works of these authors. As I am writing a notable exhibition is going on. Catlin's representations of customs among North American Indians, Moran's scenes in the Yellowstone Park, a set of plates in use in German schools to illustrate pictures in natural scenery, and Trouvelot's representations of heavenly objects as seen through the telescope, have been placed on the walls of a large room, and scholars (accompanied by teachers) from the different school-buildings come successive days after school, that is to say about 4:30 p.m., to see them. Such scholars come as wish to; none are obliged to come, but large numbers avail themselves daily of the privilege offered. The scholars gather in groups about the different sets of pictures, and the librarian and teachers talk with them about the scenes represented.

The Free Public Library in Worcester was a pioneer in bringing about a close connection between a public library and schools. It was sometime after it began its work before confidence was inspired in authorities in many other places to undertake similar work. After a few years, however, when success in doing this kind of work had become very evident and its usefulness clearly and indisputably demonstrated, attention was attracted everywhere, and all over the country town and city libraries undertook work similar to that done in Worcester, and tried, each library in its own way, to make themselves useful to teachers and scholars and effect as much as possible by working through the teachers.

It would be interesting to show how the work started in Worcester and to give particulars in regard to its conduct and results, but in such an article as this there is room only to make the general statements which have been given,

*AT ST. LOUIS, MO.*

By Frederick M. Crunden, *Librarian Public Library, St. Louis.*

The St. Louis Public Library was, until two years ago last June, a public library only in name. The handicap of a subscription fee was particularly heavy in the work that a public library should do in the schools. Before the fee was removed, however, we furnished to schools that wished them sets of books — 50 copies of a single book, such as Franklin's "Autobiography," Scudder's "Book of folk stories" and "Book of fables." That more was not done was owing chiefly to the fee, but also to lack of active co-operation on the part of teachers.

Since the library was made free its use by children has increased enormously. While the total number of cardholders has increased (in less than three years) from 5000 to 45,000, the enrolment of persons under 17 years has grown from about 1000 to 20,000. We send to any school that will take them a collection of 100 or 200 books, to be exchanged as often as desired. Most of the principals, however, do not care to take upon themselves the trouble and responsibility, and prefer to rely on the delivery stations. It is therefore our policy to locate delivery stations so that each will be convenient to several large schools. We have now 29 stations, through which 14,235 volumes were issued in February. The issue shows a marked increase from month to month. It now constitutes about ¼ of the total circulation, and of it about 60 % consists of children's books.

During the last five months we have registered an average of more than 1500 names a month, which is about the average for the whole period since the library was opened free to the public. As readers have come in about as fast as we could possibly care for them, we have not found it necessary, or, indeed, had time to make special efforts in any one direction. We try, however, to serve the schools by giving every teacher who desires it a "teacher's card," on which six books can be drawn at once for school use. This is additional to the regular and the "extra" or "non-fiction" card to which every reader is entitled. This has been in operation for seven months, and 312 teachers have availed themselves of the privilege.

Our teachers, like teachers all over the country, are realizing more and more the value, the necessity of books other than text-books; and I hope to see the day when the initiative will come from the teacher, as it does now in a few cases — when the teacher will agree with the editor of the *Springfield Republican*, that "the liking for a good book is of vastly more importance to youth than a knowledge of equation of payments or adverbial elements of the third form." When that truth, with all it implies, has been accepted by teachers, superintendents, and school directors, the value of our schools will be doubled through their co-operation with the public library.

Let me add, as a postscript, that we are supplying four Sunday-schools, three Congregational and one Baptist. To three of them a stock of books — 200 to one, and 100 to each of the others — was sent, to be changed from time to time; while the fourth makes a weekly requisition for books wanted, which are sent on Saturday. This school has asked for a stock of books to supply a branch library and reading-room, which it purposes keeping open every evening in the week.

*AT CLEVELAND, O.*

By Linda A. Eastman, *Public Library, Cleveland, O.*

The co-operation of the library with the schools in Cleveland practically began in 1884, with the issue of teachers' cards, entitling the holder to draw five books at a time. Some three or four years later came the next important step, the issuing of books to the schools, in sets of from 20 to 50, to be reissued to the pupils; the results of this plan proved so satisfactory to the teachers, in spite of the responsibility for the books which it entailed, that almost from the beginning the demand for books by the schools has been greater than the library could meet. The best books for children are duplicated largely for this use; for instance, the shelf lists show 178 copies of "Little women," and several hundred volumes of Pratt's "American history stories."

In issuing books to the schools, the teachers are allowed to make their own selection of books, so far as is possible and advisable. In two or three districts the principals have personally overseen the work, as described by one of them, Miss Comstock, in last year's school number of the Library Journal; in most instances, however, the books for each room are in charge of the teacher. This year, one principal has been furnished with 10 copies each of the books in the pupils' reading course published by the Ohio Teachers' Association, and the children of this building are being encouraged in a systematic reading of the course.

In two school districts a work has been begun which deserves more than the brief mention which it can receive here — I refer to a work with the mothers in which the library is taking a part, by circulating books on child-training, housekeeping and home-making, etc., and which may go farther than any work heretofore done in the co-operation of library and school, as it brings in a third (or shall I say a first?) great power, the power of the home, and goes back of the child, to the parent as affecting the child.

In the same way as to the day school, books are issued to the night schools, to a number of boys' clubs, to Y. M. C. A. classes, and to Goodrich House social settlement.

In January, 1896, the Central High School and the library joined hands in establishing a branch library for the use of the school. The school furnishes the room and the greater number of the books, while one of the regular assistants of the library has charge of the work, which is done according to our regular methods. This branch has so grown in importance that it now contains 3500 volumes belonging to the school, and about 1000 more loaned from the library; each day, while school is in session, books are sent out from the main library to fill any temporary demand. The reports show an average daily reference attendance of over 225 throughout the past term, and an average daily issue of 115 books for home use. The reading lists which the high school has published for each grade, with helpful suggestions about reading, have done much to guide the pupils in their selection of books.

The normal school is looking more and more to the library as a fruitful resource; and excepting such books as may be wanted as text-books, the library puts no limit on the books sent there for actual use. Most encouraging is the fact that a realization is very surely growing of the importance of a study of juvenile literature as a legitimate part of the normal school course; there yet remains to be emphasized the fact that pupils need systematic instruction in the use of books.

The teachers' reading-room, equipped with the leading school journals and a reference library of several hundred pedagogical works, has been moved from the school headquarters, owing to its overcrowded condition, into the alcove of the library, which contains the books on education, and this has tended to bring the teachers into closer touch with the library. The school holiday series of special reading lists published by the library this year has added largely to the use of the library by the schools.

With the expansion of our branch system, the use of the library by the children themselves has grown rapidly, as each branch is easily available to the pupils of several large school buildings. When the new South Side branch was opened a few weeks ago, such crowds of children presented themselves that it became necessary to send a notice to the schools in that part of the city, assigning to each grade one day on which the pupils of that grade and none others could be registered and given cards; so far it has been impossible to supply books fast enough to meet the demands of this branch, and repeatedly comes the word from there, "Send more juvenile books, there is not a juvenile book on the shelves."

During the holiday vacation, and again during the present spring vacation, we advertised "Children's week at the library," with the result that many little folk have sought and found much of their vacation pleasure here. One thing which is sure to lead to a wiser and more diversified choice of reading on the part of the children has been the bringing together of all of the children's books into what is known as the juvenile alcove. This alcove has heretofore contained only the juvenile fiction, and many of the best books for young people, scattered throughout the library wherever their classification with the subject put them, were practically lost to the children.

A book-mark which originated, like many other good things, in Wisconsin, has appealed very successfully to Cleveland children with its little story. The formation of the children's library league is our latest development for the creation of a sentiment of respect for books and for careful usage of them; it is in its first infancy, but it seems to promise a worthy future.

A plan of organizing reading committees of the teachers best qualified to pass judgment on every juvenile book put into the library has the hearty support of the school authorities, and the first steps have been taken toward putting it into operation.

The success of the plan of circulating pictures is assured by the co-operation of the superintendent and the master of drawing of the public schools and of the faculty of the School of Art.

Coming to the higher education, it may be of interest to note that books are sent by messenger from our library to the Hatch Library of

Western Reserve University, to supply books wanted there, just as they are sent to the branch libraries.

This is the merest outline of a work for which there seems to be unlimited possibilities of expansion. Is any line of library work better worth while?

*AT DETROIT, MICH.*

By Henry M. Utley, *Librarian Public Library, Detroit.*

Since 1887 the Detroit Public Library has supplied books specially for the reading of the children of the public schools. The scheme, which was begun in a small and experimental way, has been extended from time to time, until, at the opening of the present year, upwards of 7000 books are circulated from 55 school-houses. Books have not been provided for the grades below the fourth, but it is not improbable that the young children will yet be favored in a manner similar to their elders, and that every public school in the city will be made a branch of the public library. The books are duplicates specially selected for the purpose, and the number of copies of each ranges all the way from a dozen to a hundred. They were carefully chosen with a view to meet all tastes, and include the books which have become classics by reason of the universal approval of young people, and those in which children are known to take delight.

The books are exchanged once in eight weeks, or five times during the school year. If requests come from teachers respecting the assignment of certain books, they are complied with; otherwise the distribution is made by the library assistant in charge of this department. The task of caring for these books at the school is not made irksome to the teachers. They are sent out in chests, in which they may be kept in the school-room. There is no formality about giving them out. Of course, every child in a school is personally known to the teacher. No guaranty is required. The receipt on file shows the whereabouts of every book. If a volume is lost or destroyed, the parent of the child is expected to pay the cost of replacing it, if able. Books in houses in which there are contagious diseases are returned directly to the library and destroyed.

When the books are received at the schools they are assigned to the different rooms in proportion to the number of children, and any pupil is entitled to draw any one of the books to be taken home and kept until read or its return is required by the teacher. A ticket in the form of a receipt is made out by the child, giving the title of the book, the date when drawn, and name of the person drawing. These tickets are filed in their order. When the book is returned, they are transferred to another file, and at the end of each month are counted and the result entered in a blank form of report, which reports are compiled at the library at the end of the year and show the school circulation. Last year this amounted in the 4th grade to 19,692; 5th and 6th grades, 20,756; 7th and 8th grades, 8932; 9th to 12th grades, 43,364; a total of 93,744. The reports from the several schools show that the comparative use of the books bears no uniform relation to the number of children in the school. One school, with an enrolment more than 40 per cent. greater than another, shows less than half its circulation; one school shows every pupil to have read on the average 8.5 books, another shows an average reading of only 2.8. There are two grounds of explanation of this discrepancy — proximity of the school to the library, and the interest taken by the teachers in the work. Children may have library cards and make use of the library, and many whose homes are not distant and in the more prosperous sections of the city, who have read most of the books offered them at the schools, choose instead to go directly to the library for their books. But more than all things else does the interest taken by the teachers show itself in the reading of the children. Enthusiastic teachers not only inspire their pupils with desire to read the books sent out to them, but lead them to the library and help them to make judicious selections. This influence is a matter of common observation at the library. It is encouraging to note that the interest and enthusiasm among teachers are growing. As they see the results of the reading of good books in the stimulation of the mental activity of the pupils in the acquirement of knowledge and improvement of taste, they are more than ever eager to promote the good work.

This system is building up a clientage for the public library which will increase as the years go on. The habit of reading good books is not only one of the best things which the school can furnish to the child, but is insuring to the public library stanch friends and patrons. In very many cases, especially in the poor and more remote portions of the city, the books taken home from the schools are read by all

the members of the family, and in some known instances have been the means of inducing the taking out of library cards and of advertising the library in quarters where it had been hitherto unknown or little thought of.

*AT MILWAUKEE, WIS.*

By Mary Ella Dousman, *Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.*

The motive which underlies the work done in the Milwaukee Public Library may be fittingly expressed in the words of President Eliot, that "It is always through the children that the best work is to be done for the uplifting of any community."

There is no age limit, and the library strives to win the attention of the youngest through a plentiful supply of the best colored picture-books obtainable, which it urges parents to take home to the little ones. These picture-books are also sent in large numbers to kindergartens and primary grades, where they are received with great delight, one teacher having reported that some of her children wept when they were promoted from the primary grades to others where there were no picture-books. As long as there is a demand for these books in the intermediate grades there seems no reason why a few should not be sent for the pleasure of the children who still enjoy them. The library has published a list of these picture-books which teachers and parents find useful in making a selection. The number of times these books are issued in the primary grades is a matter of surprise even to the most sanguine; one teacher issuing 30 books over 1600 times during the two months the books were retained. Another teacher says, "After once having the books I cannot do without them," and another having a rude and unmannerly class of children says she must have a new set of books immediately, as a carefully-selected set of stories does much toward teaching the children to be kind and gentle to one another.

The teachers are urged to come to the library to make their own selection of books, but when this is not possible they are asked to send lists or discuss the special needs of their classes with the assistant in charge of the school circulation. To keep the resources of the library ever in the minds of the teachers a complete catalog of the books for young people has been made a part of the manual of school instruction, and special reference lists have been published on holidays, such as Independence day, Memorial day, Washington's birthday, Thanksgiving day, and Christmas.

To still further assist parents and teachers a list of 25 best books for primary and intermediate grades has recently been published, giving the name of publisher and price of book, thus assisting those wishing to purchase suitable books for home libraries. The list may also be used as a call slip at the library, and includes such books as Scudder's "Verse and prose for beginners," Norton's "Heart of oak" books, Andrews' "Seven little sisters," Schwatka's "Children of the cold," Stevenson's "Child's garden of verse," Eggleston's "Stories of great Americans for little Americans," "Stories of American life and adventure," and others.

To show the steady growth of the system of circulation of books through the public schools of Milwaukee, one has only to glance through the annual reports of the library since the plan was put in operation in 1888, when the necessity of making the library better known to children living in the outlying districts became apparent.

The library assumed the cost of transportation, and the teacher acted as librarian, issuing books to such children as were provided with library cards.

During the first year 2235 books were drawn by various teachers, and given out 6728 times, each volume being read on an average of three times during the six weeks the books were retained. The experiment proved an unqualified success, and in order to meet the increasing demand for books the library board decided to expend $500 in duplicating the best books for young people.

During the second year the work was greatly extended, taking in almost every school in the city, and at the request of the teachers the time of retaining books was extended from six weeks to two months, and over $1000 was expended for duplicates. The hearty co-operation of the teachers, the generosity of the board of trustees in the matter of buying duplicates, and the enthusiasm and untiring efforts of the superintendent of the circulating department have made it possible to carry on the work to its present extent.

During the year, beginning in September, 1895, 20,691 books were issued 65,943 times by 246 teachers in 41 graded schools, three high schools, one state normal school, one school for the deaf, three Sunday-schools, and two private schools. Books were also sent to hospitals,

homes for the aged, and the state industrial school for girls. As soon as one set of books was returned from the schools or institutions there was an eager demand for "more books."

The present year shows a still greater increase in the work, or as the old man who delivers the books expresses it, "They are hungry for books." It is indeed true, as the rapid increase at the main library testifies. Many a child living in the outlying districts, after reading all the books sent to his school, requests the teacher to give him his card that he may visit the library — which is probably miles from his home — there to still further satisfy his "hunger" for more books.

In addition to the books there is a collection of over 2000 mounted pictures which are loaned to the schools. These pictures, which are taken from the extra copies of *Harper's Weekly*, *London Illustrated News*, and other good weeklies, are neatly mounted on manilla board. The work of cutting and pasting is mainly done by the assistants during the summer, when the regular work is not so heavy, although teachers have offered their services on several occasions and at such times have been assisted by their pupils. These pictures are sent to the schools for the same length of time as the books and prove a source of great pleasure to the children.

### *AT SPRINGFIELD, MASS.*

By Mary Medlicott, *Reference Department, City Library, Springfield.*

The work of our library as an aid to the schools of the city has been a growth of years, developing with use and further acquaintance with its desirability.

We, of course, provide works on the principles of education, and on the theory and art of teaching, for the use of instructors; the writings of standard educational authors; pedagogical periodicals and reports of the board of education of our own state, the commissioner of education, and others. Also the latest and best books of a practical character as they come from the press. We furnish many of the best books for reading, directly illustrative of the various studies pursued in the schools, for collateral and general study.

Each teacher is furnished with a personal card and also a teacher's card, entitling to the use of six books at a time for school-work. Pupils of 12 years old and over are also entitled to cards for personal use. Teachers are invited to furnish in advance the topics they propose to give to their classes, and we select the best available books upon these topics, placing them at the disposal of the students for use out of school hours. This tends to improvement in the work of the schools, and to familiarity with the use of books for purposes of study, cultivating habits of investigation, which will be of service later on in life.

To go a little more into detail as to methods: We lately placed in the reference-room additional shelves which are used exclusively for books for classes in the schools; assigning special shelves to each class or teacher who desires it, and labelling them (in L. B. label-holders) with the subject represented on the shelf, changing the label when the books or subjects are changed. As for instance: French history, General history, American literature, Astronomy, Electricity, Glass-making, etc. Thus the scholars soon learn where to go for their books, and if they require additional help they have only to ask at the reference-desk. Sometimes the teachers prefer to make their own selections of books.

For this work we utilize the best material that the library can furnish: books, the newest encyclopædias, magazine articles, and even newspaper cuttings occasionally, especially for recent biography. All these are treated as reference-books for the time and not allowed to be taken home. The scholars are also encouraged to search out for themselves books or magazine articles that will be useful by the aid of the catalogs, "Poole's Index," etc., thus varying the methods of study. In our monthly bulletins we frequently print special lists which are of help to them, and we are always glad when any of the teachers will aid in the selection of the best books for these printed lists.

We have been very fortunate in the spirit of harmony and co-operation between library officials and teachers, resulting in mutual benefit.

Our library is especially well located for the work of helping the public schools. It is in close proximity to the high school, so that often during school hours some of the pupils will come in — between two "periods" — to use the books set apart for them; and again after school closes. In immediate connection with the library, and under its management, is the Art and Natural History Museum, and the resources of both collections are available for purposes of school study.

From the duplicate geological, mineralogical, and lithological specimens in the Natural His-

tory Museum, collections have been prepared and loaned to the various grammar schools of the city. We have prepared and printed in our monthly bulletin a selected list of the best books in our library to use in connection with the study of these specimens, and which may also serve as a guide in the building up of school libraries.

A course of lectures on natural woods, vegetable fibres, and kindred topics is being given before the teachers, in the natural history hall, and for this, too, we have prepared a list of helpful books, which has been printed for circulation among the teachers.

For the weekly lectures or talks on art, given to high-school pupils in one of our lecture-rooms, we likewise furnish much material in the way of illustrative books, both for lecturer and pupil. To these may be added the easy and practical examination of art objects and pictures, and art-books, and of the fuller natural history collections.

The teachers bear witness to the usefulness of the library in these ways, and to the extension of the so-called "laboratory method" to all branches and grades of study. One of our school principals writes: "The books thus supplied in history, geography, and other departments of school study are of inestimable value, stimulating and developing in the pupils a taste for solid literature, and enabling the teachers to give a broader education than could possibly be done by the use of text-books and oral instruction alone." Indeed, he adds that, "after having been accustomed for a time to this method, he should hardly know what to do with his school if he could not avail himself of the opportunities for this supplementary use of books in connection with the text-books in use."

The librarians also notice gradual improvement in the methods of study in those who come week after week, perhaps year after year, to make use of our books for school-work.

## CHILDREN'S READING: WHAT SOME OF THE TEACHERS SAY.

By John Cotton Dana, *Librarian Denver Public Library.*

The Public Library of Denver is maintained by School District No. One; a district embracing about half the population of the city and a large proportion of its taxable property. It has at present an enrolment of about 10,000 children. The library is a part of the district's educational system; and while it serves the public as effectively as its resources permit, every care is taken to make it popular with the teachers, attractive to the children, and adapted generally to the needs of the schools. With this end in view a great deal of attention has been paid to the purchase of books for teachers and pupils, and every effort has been made to induce both teachers and pupils to make use of the library. A recent inquiry showed that of the 700 children in the high school over 90 % have library cards. Of the total books lent for home use about one-third are from the juvenile-room, which contains about one-fifth of the library's lending department. Of the total number of visitors to the library — they have averaged for a good part of the last winter about 1500 per day — nearly 700 are children.

The library came into existence, as an institution of practical use to the schools, about five years ago, with about 7500 volumes. Since that time its connection with the schools has increased as rapidly as the growth of volumes on the shelves has permitted. It now has 35,000 volumes, a great many of which are all the time in teachers' and pupils' hands. Collections of from 10 to 50 and 60 volumes are sent to teachers' rooms on their request and largely of their own selection, and are kept for one month, or six months, or as long as wanted. Teachers lend these books for home use, or not, as to them seems best. This work in the schools has been going on for several years; but to a large extent only during the past 12 months.

The school district itself purchased, four years ago, about 3000 volumes of supplementary readers. This collection it has increased to about 8000 volumes; the list now including not only supplementary readers but a large number of books called desk-books, like Matthews's "American literature," "Portraits and sketches of American authors," "How to teach reading," Dole's "American citizen," etc.

The fact that the school district sustains and controls the library; that it is under the supervision of the superintendent of schools, and that it has been for several years in close touch with teachers and pupils, explains the interest taken by teachers in a circular of inquiry about children's reading which was recently sent,

through the principals, to every teacher in grades one to four, 101 in all. The principals were requested, at one of their meetings, to call the attention of the teachers to the fact that in answering these inquiries they could help the library in its work; but that they were under no obligations whatever to make any reply, and that no one save themselves and the librarian would ever know whether they replied or not. The object of this explanation was to make sure that only those teachers who were interested in the matter for its own sake should express any opinions. Of the 101 circulars sent out, 73 were returned. The principals of the grade schools, 16 in number, were also asked to reply to the questions, and 13 did so. Their replies are included in the figures below. The questions and the replies, the latter tabulated as fully as possible, were as follows:

CHILDREN'S READING: OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF TEACHERS.

Will you help the public library by answering as fully as you can the following questions? Return this sheet by mail in the enclosed envelope.

1. (*a*) Do you think it would be well for pupils in your grade to read more books? (*b*) What are the reasons for your opinion?

To (*a*) 13 answer, yes; one answers, no.

2. How early in their school life is it possible, on the average, to interest children in independent, outside reading?

32 say, in the first grade (children about 6½ years old).
25 say, in the second grade " " 7½ " "
14 say, in the third grade " " 8½ " "

3. (*a*) Could you increase the amount of reading done by the children in your grade if you had books which you could lend them for home use? (*b*) Could you increase the reading, even in the first grade, if you had appropriate books to lend?

To (*a*) 73 say, yes; 2 say, no.
To (*b*) 44 say, yes; 6 say, no.

4. Can you name some of the more essential characteristics of the books which especially interest the children in your grade?

31 say, "Should be about plants, animals, and other familiar things."
24 say, "Should be about fairies and the like."
11 say, "Must have human interest" (this essential is also impliedly mentioned in many other replies).
10 say, "Should have illustrations."

5. (*a*) To the children of what grade can you show the difference between books — between those that are true to life and those that are not; between those that may be called literature, and those that may be called silly? (*b*) To those, say, below the fifth grade?

To (*b*) 32 say, yes; 5 say, no.

6. What proportion of the children under your care do you think are in the habit of reading books? As many as one in 10?

Average of all estimates is 30 per cent.

7. Do the children under your care read the trashy story-paper and "nickel libraries" to any great extent?

51 say, no; 6 say, yes.

8. If so, do you think some of them would change to better reading if the better were offered them?

9. If you have any decided views on children's reading in general, will you write them down on the other side of this sheet?

The replies to question 1 (*a*) are perhaps what might naturally have been expected; and yet it seems a little remarkable that there are among 101 average teachers of children between six and 11, or among the 73 who replied, only one who is of the opinion that it would not be well for pupils to read more books than they now read. The reasons for the affirmative replies, and a good idea of the character of the notes accompanying them, will be found in the following extracts:

"The reading habit should be formed early."

"Reading would add greatly to their limited vocabulary, and improve their language, written and oral."

"Reading will make them more intelligent thinkers."

"The pupil who does the most outside reading is a better reader than the one who does little or none; is more intelligent and a better talker."

"I find all my good readers are those who read at home."

"Those who are liberally supplied by their parents with good books as a rule express their thoughts correctly."

"It is easier to influence a child's taste for good reading at the age of eight or nine than several years later."

"Reading awakens their interest for other things."

"Children who read good books are better prepared for their grade work."

"I find that pupils who read most are those who most intelligently grasp nearly all subjects."

"If outside reading did nothing but familiarize children with good conversational English it would be worth while."

The answers to the second question are probably very much affected by the experience of those who make the replies. Teachers who

have never taught in the first grade would be commonly, I suppose, more sceptical about interesting children in reading while they are still in that grade than those who have had experience in primary work. It will be noted that the 71 replies to this question all say that it is possible to interest children in outside reading by the time they are in the third grade. This means by the time they are 10 years of age.

Question 3 (*a*) comes as a natural result of the opinions indicated in the replies to 1 and 2. If one can draw any conclusion from these answers it would seem that they indicate that not yet has sufficient attention been paid to the reading of the very young. We have been talking about the "juveniles" in our library work for years, and have meant, in general, books for children of the age for Oliver Optic and Harry Castlemon; we should have been putting in a good part of our time in the consideration of books for children of the age for "Mother Goose," and "Puss in boots," and "Jack the giant-killer."

Question 3 (*b*) is also in effect a part of the reply to question 2. 44 out of 50 teachers are evidently of the opinion that children of six and seven years of age could easily be persuaded to take an interest in books at home. In their replies to question 2, teachers make such remarks as the following:

"Every child would read at home if he had anything interesting to read."

"You can interest children in outside reading just as soon as they are able to read at all."

"My pupils are second grade, and have surprised me by asking for stories."

In replying to question 3 some of them say:

"Surely, and to great advantage even in the first grade, and in this grade many more books are needed than we now have. The little ones are greedy for them."

Another says that most of the children in her grade are from homes where parents have little or no leisure to procure books; but gladly make use of whatever is placed in their way for the children.

Another says: "I find that two-thirds of my children's reading is confined to Sunday-school papers."

The replies to question 4 must be considered as being the natural outcome of the movement of recent years toward nature study. In the schools of this district, in the last two or three years, very much attention has been paid to natural history. The most elaborate of the courses of study issued by the district last fall was devoted to the sciences of botany, geology, zoölogy, metallurgy, astronomy, etc. It would seem from these replies, in the first place, that it is evident that teachers can interest their children in any subjects they wish; and in the second place, that the result of the work of recent years, in these particular schools at least, has been to interest children in plants, animals, and like familiar things. Of course, it is not yet proven that paying so much attention to natural history is a good thing from an educational point of view. The important point to note is that teachers can produce certain specific effects upon children, can direct their attention and their interests, if they wish.

In answering question 4 some of the teachers say:

"Almost any subject if expressed in short sentences and illustrated."

"Must be true to the child's experience, and expressed in the child's simple way."

"You can interest primary children in any tale on earth that you tell them, and in almost any that you read to them."

"A child is interested in the life and actions of a normal child if naturally and pleasantly described; he is very fond of detail."

"I find the boys mostly interested in historical works, while the girls are attracted towards accounts of the manners and customs of the various nations."

"They like stories of modern life which come near enough to their own experience to be easily understood."

Question 5 is, of course, very much of a leap in the dark, and not much reliance can be placed upon the replies.

It was understood in the drawing up of these questions that they would not be of any great value by reason of the replies to them that might be received. The object kept in view in preparing them, and in sending them out, was the interesting teachers in several aspects of the problem of children's reading. We wished to draw attention to the library and to books in general; and we took pains to frame the questions in such a way as to call the attention of the teachers to their own indifference, if they were indifferent, and their own ignorance, if they were ignorant, of the things the circular spoke of. Question 5, it was thought, would raise certain questions, and perhaps for the first time, in a good many of the teachers' minds. The replies to 5 would indicate that more of the teachers had given the question serious consid-

eration than librarians generally have supposed. They say, for example, that first-grade children "can appreciate the difference between a good story and goody-goody stories." And "any child of average intelligence can be made to see and understand the difference, if one will give time and attention to the effort."

The replies to question 6 are, on the whole, rather encouraging. If one-third of the children from six to 11 in the average city school are in the habit of reading, we have a great field for work, and there is enough to do to keep us all busy for many years in taking pains that the reading they do is of the proper kind.

In regard to question 7, the general opinion seems to be that the story-paper and the "nickel library" does not come into a child's life until he is past the 4th grade, or is nearly 12 years of age. It would be interesting to know if this is a fact. I believe the teachers who made replies to question 7 know what they are talking about.

If children can be led to read during the years from six to 11; if they can be induced to read, in the main, whatever the teacher may care to give them; if they are not likely to come in contact with cheap and nasty literature until they have passed this period: then is it most evident that this is the period in young folks' lives within which the public library and the school-room library can, and should, do its best and most enduring work. Here is the period when the reading habit should be formed; here is the period when, to as great an extent as possible, right taste should be formed. It is suggested by the replies to these questions that it is possible, at least, that a great deal of our public library work has been aimed at people who are already beyond salvation, and that we should amend our ways, widen out our children's departments, work our way still more thoroughly and effectively into the schools, gain the co-operation and the aid of the teachers — they above all others can help us — win the sympathy and good-will and assistance of the parents, and get at the children between the ages of six and 11.

## SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

By Electra C. Doren, *Librarian Dayton (O.) Public Library.*

As great even as a good book is the power to communicate to another the love for one. To win children to this love, to lead them to appropriate to themselves ideals from characters in books, to appeal to the sense of ethical relation through their imaginations, to deepen and enrich the emotions by suggestion; in other words, to so read a good book into a child that he is bound in some way to live it out in himself, is a privilege, the hope of which alone is enough to sweeten days of unseen and never-to-be-acknowledged drudgeries of the school-room and the library. To make possible this privilege, and to realize to a greater degree than has heretofore been done the ideal mission of the book to the people, is the ultimate aim of the school library system of Dayton.

It is one thing to select books for a given purpose and bring them together as a symmetrical collection of ideas tending toward that purpose; it is another to invent and operate the machinery for distributing them to convenient points for the user; and it is another and a very different thing to *use the book* — to open it to the reader, be he child, woman, or man, so that it shall be felt by him to be a real thing.

Within the limits of opportunity and with such means as have been at its command, the Public Library of Dayton has taken the first and the second step. The last can only be taken when the public shall demand that the course of instruction shall include the *pleasure* of reading as well as the study of it as a word-calling exercise. To describe this movement so far as it has taken place in Dayton with the third step as its goal in view is my object.

A fondness for reading as a preferred form of idleness is not necessarily a love for good books; it is too often a love for bad books, and if unguarded by circumstance, which in itself is a kind of circumspect prohibition, or uncorrected by natural good taste or conscience, it will soon develop into a vicious habit, and the speedy degeneration of memory and will-power takes place. Mental and moral fibre having been attacked and weakened are thus prepared to succumb before temptation of a more active sort when the opportunity for it shall arrive. Notwithstanding the solicitude often expressed by parents, educators, and librarians upon the subject of children's reading, it is a matter which has been left largely to regulate itself

by chance. To organize chance and to array it upon the side of good sense is the better part of valor in a reformation of this sort, for such in part it must be.

Having at my disposal, last spring, three months of good leisure, I determined with Miss Eastman, then the assistant librarian at Dayton, to follow up a series of library lectures instituted by the library board during the preceding winter, with a study of the use made of the public library by teachers and pupils of the public schools. The address at the opening of this lecture course by Mr. Frank Conover, the secretary of the board, upon the "Relation of the public library to the public school," and also that of Dr. W. J. Conklin, the vice-president, upon the "Educational value of the public museum," had called special attention to these institutions as educational factors, and were an excellent preface for the purpose which we had in view. This purpose is set forth in the following note addressed by us to each of the principals of the public schools:

"We are seeking information concerning the reading of children as a working basis for ourselves in making selected book lists which we hope will help the child in his choice of out-of-school reading, and at the same time be a means by which we may co-operate intelligently with the teacher in the work of his education. To this end we have formulated the questions enclosed. The ruled blank we would like to have filled out by yourself and the list of questions by the children as indicated in the note enclosed to the teacher.

"In order to better inform ourselves as to the mental grasp of the children in the various grades of school-work, and also better to appreciate the educational system of which we deem the Public Library and Museum a part, we are, with the consent of the superintendent of instruction, visiting the school-rooms from the 4th to the 8th grades, and hope within a few days to visit your district."

The following questions enclosed to the teachers were answered in writing by each child:

1. About how many books have you read since Christmas?
   *a.* Name as many of these as you can.
   *b.* What book in your own home library is most read and best liked in your family? What magazine? What paper?
2. What book did you like best of all the books you ever read?
3. Have you a card to draw books from the public library?
4. Do you take books from any library other than the public library?
5. Do your parents ever tell you good books to read and help you select them?
6. If not, do you choose your own books?
7. Do you read any newspaper? Name.
8. Have you ever been in the museum above the library?
   *a.* How many times?

In the course of the three months, from March until the latter part of May, we visited the school-rooms of the city in each of the 20 districts, paying particular attention to the four grades between the third reader and the grade next to the high school. Thus we became personally acquainted with the teachers on their own ground and had an opportunity for judging of the children as we saw them in class recitations and in the brief talks which we were permitted to have with them. We heard something of their histories, and saw their homes and the conditions of the localities from which they came, walked the distances which they must walk to get a book from the library, and gathered on all sides a store of impressions by which we might better interpret their answers, and realize in a more perfect way the needs and capacities of those for whom we hoped to see fuller provisions made. The distance of school-houses from the library varies from a block and a half to two miles or more, four of the school-houses only being within one mile of it.

Omitting the answers of the third reader grades and the rooms of two districts which made no returns to us, 3192 children between the ages of 10 and 14 years sent in papers. Of these, 1069, or about one-third only, said that they drew books from the public library; 733, or less than one-fourth, drew from other libraries, such as the Sunday-school, Y. M. C. A., etc. In most cases these children were also public library readers, some of them drawing from three different libraries at one time. A little less than two-thirds of the entire 3192 did not take books from any library, nor had they books at home. Over one-half of those who did take said they chose their own books.

To the questions, "Do your parents ever tell you good books to read, and help you to select them?" the answers, "Not very often," "Nobody helps me," "I choose my own books," from pitiful little 10-year-olds, had a most mournful aspect. In one case a small urchin of the eighth grade who had read 58 books since Christmas, "an average," according to his calculations, "of three to five books a week," naïvely replies to the question, "Do you choose your own books?" "Yes, by the help of ——, one of the librarians." The list is as follows, *verbatim et literatim:*

LIBRARY WORK.

Eighth grade. Willie L. First district.

I have read on an average of 3 to 5 books a week.

Little Bobtail.
Poor & proud.
Sink or swim.
Strive & succeed.
Toby Tyler.
Mr. Stubb.
Mr. Stubb's brother.
Tom Newcom.
A rolling stone gathers no moss.
Ben's motto.
Ragged Dick.
Fame & fortune.
Bob Burton.
Tattered Tom.
Fill the Fidler.
Mark the match boy.
Ben, the luggage boy.
The circus-rider.
Ben's nugget.
Out West.
Young suvior.
Young boatman.
Young pioneer.
Ned in the blockhouse.
Frank the young naturalist.
Frank on the prairie.
Frank in the woods.
Frank on a gunboat.
Frank before Vicksburg.
Frank in the mountains.
Frank in Don Carlo's ranch.
Frank among the trappers.
Frank in the forecastle.
Snowed up.
Sportsman's Club among the trappers.
Sportsman's Club in the saddle.
Sportsman's Club among the Boears.
Stem to stern.
Boat builders.
Bivouac and battle.
Dorcas Club.
Afloat.
On a coral reef.
Drifted ashore.
Ten weeks in a skift.
Iron horse.
The Canoe Club.
Young outlaw.
Sam's chance.
New Guiena.
A floating island.
A buried treasure.
The white chief.
Gold in California.
Dog Cruseo.
In school and out.
On the blockade.
Running the gauntlet.

and almost all the boys' books in the library.

2. Castleman's, Aldgiers, Optics, and Ellises books are the best.

3. Three in our family.

4. None but my own.

5. Not very often.

6. Yes, by the help of ——, one of the librarians.

7. I read *Evening Post*, *Herald*, and *Morning Times*.

8. Yes, very often.

9. Been in the museum almost every Sunday that it was open, and once or twice every week.

It is difficult to say which child is the more hopeful case of the two; the one whom we have just quoted or another who sent in the following dreary string of negatives:

Fifth Grade. Willie W. Fifth district.

3. No.
4. No.
5. No.
6. No.
7. *Post*.
8. No.
9. No.

Neither list is an exception. They are types of hundreds of others.

After collecting and counting the children's answers, conferences of the teachers of each grade were held at the library, where we discussed informally the books which they had found suitable to children of their grade, book lists, the children's answers and their own experiences. The attention of the teachers was also called to Miss Eastman's article "The child, the school, and the library," a copy of which was given to each of them, it having been reprinted by the library board from the LIBRARY JOURNAL for this purpose.

Having reported the results of our study to the board, we were directed to recommend a suitable list of juvenile books for purchase, and in November the board of education was requested by the secretary of the library board to allow the circulation of books to children through the agency of the schools. By the last week in January, 1897, nearly 1200 books had been placed in 63 school-rooms in the city.

The library has since been increased to 2100 volumes and 113 teachers are now supplied.

The system of distribution is practically that of a travelling library. Each teacher is allowed to have one-half as many books as there are pupils in her room. This number will be increased as the library is able to purchase more books. She selects her own library, which is delivered to the school-room in a neat walnut-stained case with lock and key and a portfolio provided with the blanks for a simple charging system. The library may be kept in the school for three months, the children taking the books for seven days at a time. There are no fines or penalties except the temporary suspension of library privileges in case of negligence in returning or taking care of a book. Thus far, however, the children have shown great zeal in keeping their books nicely. Usually they are covered as soon as they are taken home. Teachers report that the general effect upon their pupils has been to stimulate and quicken their minds in all directions.

The books of the school department form a distinct collection from the general library and are kept in a bright, sunny room apart from it, where, unrestricted by rules necessary for order in other parts of the building, the teachers may have free access to the shelves, and meet with one another in the exchange of books and opinions upon them. In the summer vacation this room will be opened to children also — a special assistant being in charge. There is also a juvenile library in the general collection.

We cannot soon forget the eager, serious, childish faces, young and old, of the army of little human beings which confronted us in the school-rooms last spring, a host, three-fourths of whom, if statistics count for anything, will in all likelihood leave school forever before they are 12 years of age, having after that time no guide or opportunity for mental pleasure or growth except such as chance may throw in their way; and in many cases, for lack of a very little training and knowledge, ignorant even of such means as really do exist for after-school or out-of-school education. To place these in their way and to give them some knowledge beforehand seems at least but the complement to the idea of popular education, and a reasonable service for the schools to perform; but it is one, the need of which has not yet been definitely realized and therefore only fitfully performed. Until the course of study in our public schools is modified and the emphasis of its methods is differently placed, neither the eagerness of children for books, nor the enthusiasm of teachers, or the readiness of public libraries to furnish books can avail half of their worth and power.

It is to be hoped that the committee appointed from state and national associations of teachers and librarians to co-operate in school and library work will take note of this fact, and that an effort will be made to put the *love* of literature in its logical and ethical relation to the teaching of it, and thus avoid the anomaly of attempting to teach literature in the higher schools to pupils in whom neither love nor understanding, nor desire for it has been implanted. As the course of study is planned where the per cent. system reigns as the sole criterion of attainment, there is not one-half hour in the day, hardly one hour in the week, when teacher and pupil may meet in the school-room in the friendship of books, of real books, apart from task work and per cents. Such an interchange would be a vitalizing current, a fertilizing ray from distant suns; but it is one which never falls across the path of their hard-beaten routine. As between them no living thing of hope or imagination can spring from such soil in such an atmosphere.

In the series of panels of his "Romaunt of the rose," Burne Jones gives us the allegory of "Love and the Pilgrim." Worn, bleeding, and tear-stained, Love finds the Pilgrim among briers and cruel rocks. She, counselled by a flight of tender doves ever circling above her head, reaches to the sufferer her hand, and draws her onward toward a mountain-height beyond which lies the expanse of ocean, air, and sky. In the place where Love finds the Pilgrim there is a land-girt stream, which, failing to find its way through the barrier of the mountains, returns in a sad circle upon itself, and the land, self-fed and watered by sluggish streams, is barren. Which is Love and which is the Pilgrim in this union of the library and the school is not for us to say, but certain it is that when they together shall reach the summit and shall see the bright expanse and the morning sunshine making straight the path before them, the fresh, salt winds wafting toward them messages from beyond, then a life undreamed of in the pent, self-returning round, being newly fed, will spring into richer, purer feeling.

"Behold!
A new beatitude I make;
Blessed are the books, I say,
For honey of the soul are they!"

## OBSERVATIONS UPON CHILDREN'S READING.

PROF. JAMES E. RUSSELL, of the University of Colorado, is engaged upon a systematic study of the kind and amount of reading done by children, based upon careful statistical inquiry in the public schools of Colorado. His investigations have not yet been concluded, but are sufficiently systematized to afford some ground for the following propositions:

(1) That pupils of a given age read approximately the same amount whether the town is well supplied with libraries or not. In towns poorly supplied with books there is a regular system of exchange in vogue. Many instances have been found of a single book being passed about until every member of a grade had read it. This is the natural travelling library.

(2) That the chief influence of libraries, especially of school-room libraries, is to improve the *quality* of reading.

(3) That much more reading is done in the seventh grade (age 13½ to 14½) than in any other grade, including the high school. Girls seem to reach the maximum a year earlier, but hold over during the seventh.

(4) At the time of most intense reading there seems to be a great diversity in the character of the books read. Pupils of the seventh grade read everything that comes into their hands. In the high school the taste seems to be better developed and more uniform; one reads fiction and little else; another reads history chiefly; another is interested in scientific books, etc. In any case the tendency is generally well marked. This raises the query whether more attention should not be given to reading in the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.

These generalizations are based upon returns from towns of widely different tastes and tendencies; they have yet to be fully worked out, but they give interesting indications of the valuable results that may be expected. A summary of Prof. Russell's conclusions and inferences, when completed, will be given in a later issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

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## PICTURES FOR SCHOOL ROOMS.

A COLLECTION of solar prints, enlarged from direct photographs, was recently hung for exhibition in the juvenile room of the Boston Public Library to show what can be done at a comparatively small expense, to cultivate the artistic sense in school children; and to suggest to those who would be interested, the purchase and gift to schools of similar copies. In the collection were famous examples of sculpture, the Venus of Milo, the Victory of Samothrace, as well as modern sculptures by Fremiet and Barye; photographs of Grecian and Egyptian architecture, of Gothic cathedrals, of Venetian and Moorish palaces; specimens of wood-engraving by Dürer and others; of famous paintings and mural decorations; and portraits of George and Martha Washington, of Lowell, Lincoln, Franklin, and others.

## CHILDREN'S BOOKS OF 1896.

*Reviewed by Miss C. M. Hewins, of Hartford Public Library, at the meeting of the New York State Library Association and New York Library Club, Brooklyn, Jan. 14, 1897.*

THERE is no very good book for children in the list for 1896; that is, no book worthy to be put into the A. L. A. selected list. Of the 39 books listed, there are five that I have never seen. Of the remaining 34, Barnes's "For king or country" [Harper. $1.50] is a story of twin brothers who for family reasons take different sides in the Revolution. It has some good local color in descriptions of the seat of war in New Jersey, but the conversation is full of modern slang and colloquialisms. However, it does children good to understand that there were men in the Revolution who took the king's side from a sense of right. The same author's "Midshipman Farragut" [Appleton. $1] is a truthful account of the naval hero's life, embroidered with conversations that are not improbable.

Brooks's "Century book of famous Americans" [Century. $1.50] was written for the Daughters of the American Revolution, and is an account of a pilgrimage made by boys and girls to places of historic interest. His "True story of Abraham Lincoln" [Lothrop. $1.50] is adapted to the comprehension of younger children than lives before published. His "Under the tamaracks" [Penn Pub. Co. $1.25] is an account of a summer spent by boys at the Thousand Islands, where they meet General Grant, but is not as interesting or useful as "The long walls" [Putnam. $1.50], written by Mr. Brooks in collaboration with a new writer who signs himself John Alden. This gives a boy or girl studying the history of Greece or beginning Greek grammar an insight into old Greek life, and awakens an interest in recent archæological work that may bear fruit later.

Hezekiah Butterworth's "Wampum belt" [Appleton. $1.50] is a fairly good Indian tale, but his "Zigzag stories" should be ruled out of the books of 1896, because they have all been published in one volume or another of the "Zigzag series."

Arthur T. Quiller-Couch's "Fairy-tales far and near" [Stokes. $1.50] are taken from various sources and include Lover's "Little weaver," a variant of the "Valiant little tailor" of Grimm and "Valiant chattee-maker" of "Deccan days," and also the familiar folk-stories of "Blue Beard," "The singing leaves," "The goose-girl," and "Chicken Little," all of which may be found in larger collections that can be bought for less money.

Crockett's "Sweetheart travellers" [Stokes. $1.50] is no more a child's book than Canton's "W. V.; or, the invisible playmate." It is a charming book *about* a child, but not *for* one — a loving character-study of the author's little daughter.

Frost's "Court of King Arthur" [Scribner. $1.50] is a pretty good resetting of some of the King Arthur stories for children younger than those who read "The age of chivalry" or Lanier's "Boy's King Arthur."

Norman Gale's "Songs for little people" [Macmillan. $2] shows the influence of Stevenson, but his verse is not spontaneous, and is sometimes morbid, as in the dying child's address to his friend the old gardener. Gale, delightfully as he writes of English orchards and harvests, has not learned to see life from a child's standpoint. Some of the verses that come nearest a childish view are those on Auntie Jane, who is "sweeter than a daffodil and softer than a mouse," but the verses that describe her do not give as clear an idea of the personality of a child's favorite as Riley's "Granny's come to our house," or Stevenson's two lines on his aunt:

> "What did the other children do,
> Or what were childhood, wanting you?"

Joel Chandler Harris's "The story of Aaron" [Houghton. $2] is always entertaining to children, and Aaron, the mysterious slave of Arab descent, and the Arabian horse, their power of talking together, and their relations with Buster John and Sweetest Susan are as delightful as Uncle Remus and Brer Rabbit, or "Miss Meadows en de gals."

Henty's "At Agincourt," "On the Irrawaddy" and "With Cochrane the dauntless" [Scribner. ea., $1.50] have the usual amount of history on a thread of narrative, and the second and third tell the story of the first Burmese war and some dashing naval exploits on the South American coast, which are unfamiliar to many readers older than those for whom the books are written. I have often heard a well-known lawyer speak of the pleasure and historical information that the Henty books have given him, and Cochrane was an entirely new character to him and to me.

Joseph Jacobs's "Book of wonder voyages" [Macmillan. $1.50] includes the voyages of the Argonauts and Maelduin, with one from the "Arabian nights" and one from the Northern sagas.

Andrew Lang's "Animal story-book" [Longmans. $2] is one of the best books of the year. He has collected not only the old favorites like Androcles and the lion, but a great many new ones from the autobiography of Alexander Dumas and other modern sources.

André Laurie's "School-boy days in France" [Estes. $1.50] is not told in a style that interests American boy readers.

Albert Lee's "Tommy Toddles" [Harper. $1.25] is one of several imitations of "Alice in Wonderland," and is not nearly as good as Charles Carryl's books of the same kind.

Morrison's "Chilhowee boys at college" [Crowell. $1.50] is a story of life in Tennessee early in the century, of little interest to boys except in the region where the scene is laid.

Mrs. Moulton's "In childhood's country" [Copeland. $2], although illustrated by Ethel Reed in the style of the last year's drawings for the "Arabella and Araminta stories," is not a book for children. For example, such verses as these, encouraging premature flirtation and heartaches, should have no place in a child's library:

> "Little Boy Blue walks in the lane,
> Beside the tailor's Mary Jane,
> With never a thought, when she beguiles,
> Of waiting Margery's patient smiles;
> For they always say men never are true,
> And 'I am a man' says little Boy Blue."

In the tale of a doll and a tin soldier:

> "The faithful doll, the story goes,
> Bereft of her soldier, fickle and fine,
> Silently bearing what nobody knows,
> Is fading away in a swift decline."

Kirk Munroe's "Rick Dale" [Harper. $1.25] is the story of a boy kept indoors and molly-coddled on account of supposed heart-disease, who runs away and after a year's roughing it on the Pacific coast, where he meets some of the characters in "The fur-seal's tooth" and "Snow-shoes and sledges," and has several hairbreadth escapes, becomes a robust young man and a player on a college football team. Some of the adventures are improbable, but the general tone of the book is wholesome. The same author's "Through swamp and glade" [Scribner. $1.25] is a tale of the Seminole war.

Edmond Neukomm's "Rulers of the sea" [Estes. $1.50] is a story of the Vikings, but not as good or interesting a one as Leighton's "Olaf the glorious" or Du Chaillu's "Ivar the Viking."

Nora Perry's "Three little daughters of the Revolution" [Houghton. 75 c.] is a book of three slight short stories, two of Revolutionary times, one of to-day.

Rolfe's "Shakespeare the boy" [Harper. $1.25] is useful for reading in connection with English history or literature, but hardly a book that boys and girls will read for themselves.

Clinton Scollard's "Boy's book of rhyme" [Copeland. $1] shows the influence of Stevenson. Once in awhile he understands workings of a child's mind, as in

> "I heard the poor wind whine and moan
> Like Carlo when he's left alone,"

but no child would say

> "High above the fleecy plain
> The red sun sprang and shook his mane."

A country boy, however, who rarely goes to the city, would think that

> "Every window seems like cake
> The busy city bakers make."

Molly Elliot Seawell's "Virginia cavalier" [Harper. $1.50] is the story of Washington's boyhood and youth, dressed up a little with local color.

Stoddard's "Swordmaker's son" [Century. $1.50], that has appeared in the *St. Nicholas*, is a story of the time of Christ, useful for reading with Sunday-school lessons rather than for readers of stories in public libraries. His "Windfall" [Appleton. $1.50] is one of his sensible every-day stories.

Ruth McEnery Stuart's "Solomon Crow's Christmas pockets" [Harper. $1.25] is another of the books that are more about children than for them. Her dialect sketches are good, but she has not the right touch for children's stories.

Lily Wesselhoeft's "Jerry the blunderer"

[Roberts. $1.50], a book of cat-and-dog life and friendships, has a suggestion of Agnes Repplier's "Little pharisees," in the kitten who reforms his mother after she has become addicted to the catnip habit.

Eliza Orne White's "Little girl of long ago" [Houghton. $1] is a book which deserves nothing but praise; a simple, sweet, and wholesome picture of child-life 50 or 60 years ago.

Mabel Osgood Wright's "Tommy-Anne and the three hearts" [Macmillan. $1.50] is a fanciful bird-and-beast story; but all recent tales of this kind suffer by comparison with the "Jungle book."

Half a dozen books have been either omitted or put under other classes which are worth putting on the children's shelves in libraries. Two of them are Earle's "Wonderful wheel" [Century. $1.25], a story of a potter and his little girl among the Louisiana Creoles, and Jacobs's illustrated ("Cranford") edition of "The delectable history of Reynard the fox" [Macmillan. $2].

King's "Trumpeter Fred" [Neely. 75 c.] is a story of soldiers and Indians, about whom Captain King knows a great deal more than he does about the amount of work that a librarian's typewriter can do in a day, as shown in his "Tame surrender."

Sir Clements Markham's "Paladins of Edwin the Great" [Macmillan. $1.50] is useful for boys and girls who are studying English history.

Charles D. G. Roberts's "Around the campfire" [Crowell. $1.50] is a book of good stories of out-of-door life, and E. W. Thomson's "Walter Gibbs, the young boss" [Crowell. $1.25], a book which may have been passed over because of its unpromising title, has for the hero of the title-story a boy of 18 who takes his father's place for awhile and shows sound judgment and manliness not at all out of keeping with his years. CAROLINE M. HEWINS.

## THE BEST 50 BOOKS OF 1896 FOR A VILLAGE LIBRARY.

A LIST of 489 of the leading books of 1896 was recently submitted by the Public Libraries division of the New York State Library to the librarians of New York and other states, to obtain an expression of opinion respecting the best 50 books of 1896 to be added to a village library.

From 200 lists that met the conditions the following choice is indicated:

| RANK. | | VOTES. |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Barrie, J. M. Sentimental Tommy. Scribner. $1.50 | 162 |
| 2. | Ward, *Mrs.* Humphry. Sir George Tressady. 2 v. Macmillan. $2 | 126 |
| 3. | Parker, Gilbert. Seats of the mighty. Appleton. $1.50 | 116 |
| 4. | Morse, J: T., *jr.* Life and letters of Oliver Wendell Holmes. 2 v. Houghton. $7 | 113 |
| 5. | Smith, F. H. Tom Grogan. Houghton. $1.50 | 110 |
| 6. | Skinner, C: M. Myths and legends of our own land. 2 v. Lippincott. $3. | 108 |
| 7. | Barrie, J. M. Margaret Ogilvy. Scribner. $1.25 | 107 |
| 8. | Kipling, Rudyard. Seven seas. Appleton. $1.50 | 104 |
| 9. | Krehbiel, H: E. How to listen to music. Scribner. $1.25 | 101 |
| 9.* | Wiggin, *Mrs.* K. D. Marm Lisa. Houghton. $1 | 101 |
| 11. | Eggleston, Edward. Beginners of a nation. Appleton. $1.50 | 99 |
| 12. | Shaler, N. S. American highways. Century. $1.50 | 98 |
| 13. | Brooks, E. S. Century book of famous Americans. Century. $1.50. | 95 |
| 14. | Andrews, E. B: History of the last quarter-century in the U. S., 1870–1895. 2 v. Scribner. $6 | 89 |
| 15. | Lang. Animal story-book. Longmans. $2 | 88 |
| 16. | Watson, John. Kate Carnegie. Dodd. $1.50 | 87 |
| 17. | Beard, D. C. Outdoor games for all seasons. Scribner. $2.50 | 82 |
| 17. | Jewett, S. O. Country of the pointed firs. Houghton. $1.25 | 82 |
| 19. | Stimson, F. J. King Noanett. Lamson. $2 | 81 |
| 20. | Saintsbury, George. History of 19th century literature, 1780–1895. Macmillan. $1.50 | 79 |
| 20. | Clemens, S: L. Personal recollections of Joan of Arc. Harper. $2.50 | 79 |
| 22. | Gras, Felix. Reds of the Midi. Appleton. $1 | 77 |
| 23. | Stevenson, R. L: Weir of Hermiston. Scribner. $1.50. | 75 |
| 24. | Field, Eugene. Songs and other verse. Scribner. $1.25 | 74 |
| 25. | Stockton, F. R: Mrs. Cliff's yacht. Scribner. $1.50 | 73 |
| 26. | Perry, Nora. Three little daughters of the Revolution. Houghton. 75c. | 70 |
| 27. | Walker, F. A. International bimetallism. Holt. $1.25 | 68 |
| 28. | Dana, *Mrs.* F. T. Plants and their children. Am. Bk. Co. 65c. | 67 |
| 28. | Harper's dictionary of classical literature and antiquities. Harper. $6. | 67 |
| 28. | Stevenson, R. L: In the south seas. Scribner. $1.50 | 67 |
| 28. | White, A. D. History of the warfare of science with theology in Christendom. 2 v. Appleton. $5 | 67 |
| 32. | Abbott, Lyman. Christianity and social problems. Houghton. $1.25. | 66 |
| 33. | Lowell, F. C. Joan of Arc. Houghton. $2 | 65 |
| 34. | Earle, *Mrs.* A. M. Colonial days in old New York. Scribner. $1.25 | 64 |
| 34. | Wilson, Woodrow. George Washington. Harper. $3 | 64 |
| 36. | Davis, R: H. Three gringos in Venezuela and Central America. Harper. $1.50 | |
| 37. | Rolfe, W: J. Shakespeare the boy. Harper. $1.25 | 62 |
| 38. | Watson, John. Mind of the master. Dodd. $1.50 | 61 |

* When two or more books received the same number of votes the same rank number is given to both or each.

| RANK. | | VOTES. |
|---|---|---|
| 39. | Spencer, Herbert. The principles of sociology, v. 3. (Synthetic philosophy, v. 8.) Appleton. $2 | 60 |
| 39. | Hearn, Lafcadio. Kokoro. Houghton. $1.25 | 60 |
| 41. | Bourinot, J: G: Story of Canada. Putnam. $1.50 | 59 |
| 41. | Mabie, H. W. Books and culture. Dodd. $1.25 | 59 |
| 41. | White, E. O. Little girl of long ago. Houghton. $1. | 59 |
| 44. | Ford, P. L. True George Washington. Lippincott. $2 | 58 |
| 45. | Martin, E: A. Story of a piece of coal. Appleton. 40c. | 56 |
| 45. | Godkin, E. L. Problems of modern democracy. Scribner. $2 | 56 |
| 47. | Crockett, S: R. Sweetheart travellers. Stokes. $1.50 | 55 |
| 48. | Bigelow, Poultney. History of the German struggle for liberty. 2 v. Harper; $5 | 54 |
| 48. | Follett, M. P. The speaker of the House of Representatives. Longmans. $1.75 | 54 |
| 50. | Henty, G. A. At Agincourt. Scribner. $1.50. | 53 |

Roughly classified, the list includes 12 novels — rather less than a fourth of the whole selection, seven juvenile books, five biographies, four works each in the divisions of description and travel, social science, and poetry and literature, three books in American history, three in religion, two in natural science, and six in miscellaneous divisions.

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## LIBRARY ROUND TABLE SESSION OF THE N. E. A.

THE meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the N. E. A. at Indianapolis on Feb. 16–18 was a notable gathering. Even a casual observer could not fail to be impressed with the intelligence, address, and earnestness of the delegates; and attendance upon a single session was enough to give assurance that the educational interests of the country are in good hands.

Through some combination of unfortunate circumstances, for which nobody apparently was to blame, the Library Round Table did not receive the attention it would otherwise have had. It doubtless would have been better managed if Mr. Dewey could have been there to look after it. He was kept at Albany by imperative demands of the legislature, and at the last moment telegraphed Mr. F. M. Crunden to act in his stead as leader of the discussion. Mr. J. H. Van Sickle, of Denver, presided. Owing to uncertainty as to the hall (one of the speakers was directed to four places before he found the right one) and the great attractiveness of a round table on the "three R's," led by Dr. Rice, there was a small attendance. The topics set down for discussion were:

1. The reading of teachers; 2. The proper function of the National Library as a part of the American educational system. What it might do to assist schools and libraries throughout the country; 3. Practical help in the evolution from book borrowing to book owning; 4. The function of schools in training readers for the public library; 5. Using books *vs.* reading books, by E. A. Winship, Boston.

In introducing the first topic Mr. Crunden said that one of the greatest desiderata in our public schools is that the teachers should be readers. The most beneficial thing to a pupil is contact with a live teacher. But there is no life without growth. A teacher cannot impart life to, or awaken life in, his pupils unless his own mind is growing; and to this end he must be a reader and a student — not of professional books alone, but of the best literature. The great point is that the teacher should be a well-read, well-informed man or woman, growing intellectually from year to year. As Bishop Spalding says: "What the teacher is, not what he inculcates, is the important thing. The life he lives, and above all what in his inmost soul he hopes, believes, and loves, have far deeper and more potent influence than mere lessons can ever have." In the preface to his "Special methods in reading," Dr. C. A. McMurry, speaking of the list of books he therein recommends for teachers, says: "If all our teachers in the common schools should read with thoughtful appreciation 10 or a dozen of the best books in this series, it would surely improve the teaching in all our schools 25 per cent." Mr. Crunden added that it would also bring to teachers the greatest pleasure that can come into their lives. This pleasure they would gain in three ways: 1, through their own intellectual clarification and spiritual exaltation; 2, through witnessing the delight of fresh young minds when first brought into the realm of noble thoughts; and 3, through the lightened burdens and increased success of their professional work. Teachers should read widely as well as deeply.

In the course of the discussion of the first topic, Mr. F. A. Hutchins, library clerk of the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction of Wisconsin, said:

"Teachers should be thoroughly familiar with the great children's classics, and should enjoy them so thoroughly that they can inspire a love for these classics in the breasts of all their pupils. The school libraries will not do their best work until we have a generation of teachers who have been reared in childhood in homes and schools where the best books are habitually read. The teacher who has done very little reading can well afford to begin with the children's classics for other reasons than to be better able to help her pupils."

Mr. A. F. Foerste, teacher of physics in the Steele high school, Dayton, Ohio, spoke on making a library useful to high-school pupils. He said:

"In some of the larger city libraries the books on the various sciences, whether in the line of natural history or of physics, chemistry, and the like, are too exclusively of service to the very few, to the specialists or those having

had higher courses of training. Too great emphasis can not be laid upon the fact that these libraries are mainly for the general public, and that the most careful selection should be made of such books as would be of value to those who have not had previous training."

Following out the line of thought with which the discussion started, a superintendent present condemned a strictly professional course of reading for teachers. Teachers, he said, should read the same books as other cultivated people. He believed general culture was of more value than professional training.

To accommodate Dr. Winship, who wanted to attend another meeting, the last topic was next taken up. Dr. Winship spoke for half an hour in fervid appeal to teachers to own books, to come into intimate association with them. He said there should be the closest co-operation between teachers and librarians, and indulged in some reflections on the aloofness and loftiness of librarians, which caused the librarians present to exchange smiles of amusement.

Miss Mary E. Ahern replied briefly to this charge by telling Dr. Winship that he had evidently never attended a meeting of the A. L. A., or observed the work American public libraries are doing and trying to do. She informed him that, so far from preserving a distant attitude towards teachers, librarians had been chasing after them for 20 years and only lately were beginning to catch them.

Throughout the discussion of the first and fifth topics there was a constant tendency to digress to the fourth, which to all seemed the most important and interesting subject; and as no one seemed to have anything to say on the second and third, the fourth topic was taken up. In introducing this, Mr. Crunden related his experience as a grammar-school pupil passing in a change of schools from the old to the new idea, and said that during the last two years of the old *regime* he received more benefit from the surreptitious reading of good literature than he did from his lessons, When he changed principals he was encouraged to read, and at the same time and for that reason found his lessons more interesting and valuable. As a grammar-school principal, he had found that those teachers who led their pupils to do general reading made the best showing at text-book examinations. He quoted from Sir John Lubbock to the effect that the chief thing was "that every boy and girl should wish to learn," and from Dr. Harris's Fabyan paper: "The school is set at the task of teaching the pupil how to use the library in the best manner. That, I take it, is the central object towards which our American methods have been unconsciously guided." And in conclusion he read a number of pertinent extracts from C. D. Warner's "Relation of literature to life."

Superintendent Van Sickle, in response to a request, gave a brief account of the co-operative work done by the schools and libraries of Denver.

Remarks were made by a number of others, and before interest had begun to flag the lateness of the hour compelled adjournment.

## LIBRARY SECTION OF THE ILLINOIS TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The formation of a Library Section was authorized by the Illinois State Teachers' Association at its annual meeting at Springfield during the holidays of 1896. In accordance with the authority given, a meeting for organization was held in the rooms of the Library Bureau, Chicago, on Jan. 23, 1897. Mr. James H. Norton, of Chicago, was made chairman, and Miss M. E. Ahern, of the Library Bureau, secretary. A full discussion of the objects and possibilities of the section resulted in the determination to make the section an association of teachers, members of the Illinois Teachers' Association, and to invite the co-operation of individual librarians and the Illinois Library Association in the work of securing better libraries for schools and more intimate relations between schools and libraries. The following officers were elected: President, James H. Norton, Chicago; Vice-president, O. F. Barbour, Rockford; Secretary, Wm. W. Bishop, Evanston; Executive committee, Katharine L. Sharp, Chicago, Dr. A. F. Nightingale, Chicago, and John T. Ray, Chicago.

## "EVALUATION" OF BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.

A promising plan recently set afoot in the Dayton Public Library is the system adopted for utilizing the reading of teachers, the library staff, and others interested, for the "evaluation" of books for the children. It was one of the outgrowths of the local teachers' library conferences held last year, and is being usefully and widely developed. The following printed reading slip, of the usual L. B. standard size, is given to the person who acts as "evaluator," and on it is noted the information desired:

READING SLIP FOR PERSONS WHO EVALUE BOOKS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY.

**Author**.....
**Title**.....
**Date**..... ...**Reader**.....
**Suitable for boy?**.....**girl?**....**Age**... **Grade**....
**Subject**.....
**Locality**..... **Period**.....
**Information**.....
**Language**.....**Illustrations**.....
**Moral tendency**.....
**Comment**.....

The way in which the system works is illustrated by this completed reading slip on Miss Seawell's "Paul Jones":

Author. *Molly Elliot Seawell.*
Title. *Paul Jones.*
Date. 2 *Ja.* '97. Reader. *B.*
Sex. *both.* Grade. 6–8.
Moral tendency. *excellent.*
Language. *pure.*
Material. *history and biography related in a story-telling way.*
Correctness of information. *exact.*
Illustrated. *yes.*
Comments. *general appearance — very pleasing; it would create an interest in reading his-*

*tory and the greatest admiration for those who had served their country; gives good idea of hardships in early years, and life in the navy.*

These slips, it will be seen, may be filed away to serve the librarian as an "evaluated" card catalog of school literature, but the plan is capable of wide extension into other branches of reading, the giving of special subjects to special authorities, and, indeed, a partial attainment of comprehensive "evaluation" of library books.

## A CHILDREN'S BOOK MARK.

THE following capital book mark is used by the libraries of Milwaukee, Cleveland, Dayton, and other cities, and the attractively disguised preachment that it addresses to the children has proved decidedly effective:

**Dayton Public Library.**

**BOOK MARK.**

"Once on a time" a Library Book was overheard talking to a little boy who had just borrowed it. The words seemed worth recording, and here they are:

"Please don't handle me with dirty hands. I should feel ashamed to be seen when the next little boy borrowed me.

"Or leave me out in the rain. Books can catch cold as well as children.

"Or make marks on me with your pen or pencil. It would spoil my looks.

"Or lean on me with your elbows when you are reading me. It hurts.

"Or open me and lay me face down on the table. You wouldn't like to be treated so.

"Or put between my leaves a pencil or anything thicker than a single sheet of thin paper. It would strain my back.

"Whenever you are through reading me, if you are afraid of losing your place, don't turn down the corner of one of my leaves, but have a neat little Book Mark to put in where you stop, and then close me and lay me down on my side so that I can have a good, comfortable rest.

"Remember that I want to visit a great many other little boys after you are through with me. Besides, I may meet you again some day, and you would be sorry to see me looking old and torn and soiled. Help me to keep fresh and clean, and I will help you to be happy."

## READING ALOUD.

THE common habit of reading words without any comprehension of the meaning underlying is a decided hindrance to the development of literary taste. Paragraph after paragraph is mastered in the reading-class as far as inflection is concerned, and the pupils are promoted from one grade to another without any conception of thought or feeling. The enjoyment the child has in reading depends upon the conception of the scene portrayed. The first and most essential requirement is the cultivation of the imagination. When the child imagines the scene described and feeling is aroused thereby, all measured tones will depart, pauses and inflections will care for themselves. If mental pictures are formed in the mind of the child, he will acquire from kindergarten to high school a love and a comprehension for literary art. The work of the educator will not then be for purely intellectual results.

MARTHA VAN RENSSELAER.

## MISS SHARP'S LECTURES IN CLEVELAND.

WHEN the University of Chicago announced its intention of including in its university extension series, courses of lectures on library topics, a class was organized in the Cleveland Public Library and arrangements were made with the university for a course of lectures to be given by Miss Katherine L. Sharp, the librarian and director of the Armour Institute Library School.

The lectures were given from Dec. 10 to 24 inclusive, and the class numbered 39, including almost the entire staff of the library. In addition to members of class, nine pages, not enrolled, had the benefit of a portion of the lectures, and several visitors, either from other libraries or in some way interested in library work, listened to occasional lectures.

Each lecture was two hours in length, and as the class was necessarily divided into two sections, the lecture given to the first section in the morning was repeated to the second section in the afternoon, doubling the work of the lecturer. No attempt was made by Miss Sharp to give a complete course in library economy or to cover in two weeks the field for which the two years of the training course are scarcely sufficient, but the lectures were nevertheless eminently practical.

Beginning with a discussion of publications on library economy she followed with an account of the organized schools and classes for library instruction and the associations for promoting library interests, and travelling libraries.

The lecturer then considered the work of the circulating and of the reference departments of the library and devoted three lectures to a discussion of encyclopædias, dictionaries, and other important reference-books. This was followed by an account of the various systems of classification. The 11 lecture upon the library service discussed the various positions and

showed how in the organization of a library its effectiveness depends upon the thoroughness with which each part of the work is done, with the resulting lesson strongly enforced that even the humblest and least interesting work in the library is worth doing in the best possible way as contributing to the desired result, the usefulness of the library.

The hours of the twelfth and last day were devoted to answering the questions which had accumulated in the question-box.

The net result of the lectures to the members of the class was, first, an accumulation of information and suggestion helpful in the work which each one has in hand and moreover a broader view of the work of the library as a whole and a clear idea of the relations of each department to the others. But beyond this and of greater importance, the lectures have left with each one who listened to them an enhanced appreciation of the value of library work and an increased enthusiasm for it.

## THE HOBOKEN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE new building of the Hoboken (N. J.) Free Public Library was formally opened on the evening of April 5. The simple exercises were held in the main hall on the third floor and were largely attended.

The building was largely the gift to Hoboken of the Stevens family, who on March 22, 1895, offered to give $26,000 toward a library building on condition that the remainder of the fund be raised by the city, and that the building should also give accommodation to the industrial education department of the city. The offer was at once accepted, a site was purchased, and plans for a $50,000 building were accepted in August, 1895. The total cost of the structure, including furnishing, is estimated at about $62,000. The building is three-storied, with a basement cellar, and is built of Indiana limestone and pressed brick, with terra-cotta finishing. It will be devoted to two purposes, part being used for the free library and part for the manual training-school, the latter occupying half the second floor and the entire third floor. On the first floor are the delivery-room, the women's reading-room, the reference-room, librarian's office, and cataloging-room; the second floor contains a reading-room and the two-storied stack-room, with a book capacity of 100,000 v. The basement contains the heating apparatus, a library workshop, a trustees'-room, and storage facilities.

## THE SECOND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE AT BRUSSELS.

THE Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels will hold its second annual conference on June 27, 1897. Members of the A. L. A. are cordially invited to participate in the conference, which, it will be noted, takes place a few weeks earlier than the international conference at London.

## OPENING OF THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY.

THE John Crerar Library was opened to the public in its temporary quarters on the sixth floor of the Marshall Field building, 87 Wabash avenue, Chicago, on the morning of April 1. There were no exercises, the only ceremonial being the removing of the veil from the brass tablet bearing the founder's name, above the entrance to the library, in the presence of the invited guests. The library was visited by several hundred persons, who were shown through the rooms by Mr. Andrews and Mr. Hopkins. From April 1–3 the library was open for inspection only from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Monday, April 5, routine work was begun, the regular library hours being from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. At the time of opening there were about 15,000 v. ready for use, and about 7000 more in preparation; the work of selecting, buying, and cataloging is proceeding rapidly and systematically, and it is thought that by the end of 1898 the library will have about 40,000 v. There are 800 periodicals in the reading-room, and 400 others are soon to be added. The library, as is generally known, will devote itself to the special literature of the natural, the physical, and the social sciences, with their applications.

## LIBRARIES AND CLUBS.

AT the library institute conducted by the Indiana Library Association, Dec. 29–31, 1896, the subject of the mutual benefit to be derived from the co-operation of libraries and clubs was presented by Miss Merica Hoagland, president of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs. She said in part:

Libraries, though greatly aided by the clubs, are not as dependent upon them as are the clubs upon libraries. You have all probably observed that in a community where no public library exists the acquisition of private libraries becomes a necessity to club members. Books are, however, a cumbersome property, and after two or three years' study, club members, beginning to question the advisability of being possessed of so many books, wonder why their town or city has not a public library to supply such books. Then, again, club members, brought into an intimate acquaintance with the best books, realize more fully than ever before the deprivation which the lack of a good library entails upon a community which suffers not only a great loss of general culture but a substantial loss in its undeveloped men and women of genius.

There are 23 state federations included in the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and though this represents probably one-half million of women, it does not by any means give a true idea of club membership, since many states, like Indiana, possessed of mixed clubs, are ineligible to the Federation. I mention these facts that we may realize how, in the matter of creating public opinion, or more properly speaking, public thought, clubs may

become most potent forces in our civilization.

100, 200, or 300 club members with a public library in mind, can so mould public opinion that in a very few years there will have been created a public sentiment which will so prompt and prod derelict officials that they are forced to legislate in favor of such a library, which, having been once established, must still be maintained and fostered by a healthy public opinion, and so the clubs may become of most vital importance to the life of the library.

It is not how many volumes a library contains that determines its usefulness in a community. Better a smaller number of books made available and accessible to their readers than a library prison where books are incarcerated without any regard for their service to the public. "There is," as Emerson says, "a selection in writers, and then a selection from the selection."

In this matter of making available the contents of a library by carefully-written book notices of the latest library acquisitions, to appear from time to time in the daily papers, club members can, if they will, make themselves very useful. Of course I would not advise dozens of club members besieging a library and driving distracted its already busy librarian, in an effort to write out such book notices, but a committee appointed for a given time by the clubs which would consult the convenience of a librarian in writing up the late important books at stated periods could render valuable assistance in this way.

If the musical clubs would give occasional musicales in the library assembly-rooms with brief papers or talks upon music, biographies of musicians, etc., and would at the same time give the references pertaining to the program which the library contains, it would be productive of much good.

Current topic, magazine, and book circle clubs might be formed, the leader selecting lists of newspaper and magazine articles bearing on the events of the day. In the book circle, discussions of books similar to the one of the last A. L. A. conference would render one familiar with the various opinions as to new books.

The seed-planting season in many of our clubs has long since passed, and it is for us to look for some definite results in the improvement of conditions surrounding us, because of club culture. A club that lives only to itself, without regard for the advancement of those around it, contains the elements which will ultimately lead to its destruction.

The combined action of the clubs of Indiana is necessary to bring about the enactment of improved library laws, which shall make libraries accessible to the whole people of the state. At the last meeting of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs there was a strong interest manifested in the subject. A committee from the union has been appointed, whose duty it shall be to keep in touch with library legislation, and to so interest the clubs in such legislation that the best possible results will be obtained.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

### *ACTION ON THE TARIFF BILL.*

THE American Library Association on March 2 entered prompt and official protest, through its president and secretary, against the original draft of the new tariff bill, removing books, etc., imported for libraries, from the free list, in the following communication addressed to Mr. Dingley:

"*Hon. Nelson Dingley,*
*Chairman Com. of Ways and Means,*
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, D. C.*

"On behalf of the American Library Association, numbering more than 700, and representing most of the important libraries in the country, we would call attention to the clause of the proposed tariff bill which imposes a duty upon books imported for the use of libraries, and would urge that the bill be so amended as to place upon the free list books imported for the use of all libraries organized to do a public educational work.

"We ask attention to the following considerations:

"First.—The imposition of such a duty will seriously embarrass libraries in their work, because their incomes are usually fixed and cannot be increased, and every dollar thus diverted to the Treasury of the United States will by so much diminish the funds available for the purchase of books.

"As applied to college and other endowed libraries it is a tax upon institutions which are not only educational, but to an extent charitable, as with scarcely any exception they depend upon endowments for some portion of their support, and many of them are almost entirely supported in this way.

"As applied to public libraries, the United States government is virtually taxing the city which endeavors to broadly educate its citizens, and exempting the city that does not.

"Second.—The sum raised thereby, although large enough to seriously cripple the educational institutions from which it is exacted, forms so trifling an item in the entire proceeds of the bill, that it is not worthy of consideration.

"Third.—It does not afford any considerable protection to American industry, as the books imported by libraries, even the most popular libraries, are almost entirely such as cannot, under any circumstances, be produced in this country—consisting in the main of government publications, the publications of learned societies, and those more important and valuable contributions to literature, science, and art which are published in Europe and for which the demand in this country is too small

to induce their republication by an American publisher.

"In its ultimate results it is likely to work to the detriment of American publishing interests, as those libraries whose importations consist largely of serials, such as publications of societies, will be compelled to continue them, and the additional cost due to the tariff will simply by so much diminish the funds available for the purchase of American publications.

"The duty upon books imported for the use of educational institutions is a duty upon the tools of education, a tax upon enlightenment which cannot be defended, either as a measure for revenue or for protection.

"The privilege of free importation of books has been one of the favoring circumstances which has enabled libraries of the country to increase so greatly in numbers, in volume, and in the scope and value of their work during recent years, and to become so important a factor in the educational equipment of our country.

"We would, therefore, urge that this fostering privilege be not withdrawn, that the other libraries of the country, doing as they are the same educational work, should have the same advantage which is granted by the bill to the library of Congress and the other governmental libraries.

"Respectfully submitted,

"WILLIAM H. BRETT,
*President American Library Association.*
"RUTHERFORD P. HAYES,
*Secretary American Library Association.*"

Letters were also sent by the president of the A. L. A. to the secretaries of all state associations, urging similar protest, and on Monday April 5, an informal meeting of members of the American Library Association was held in connection with the joint meeting of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania library associations in Atlantic City, N. J., to consider the amendment to the bill. Vice-President Elmendorf presided, and a count taken of the meeting showed 34 members of the A. L. A. present. The purpose of the meeting was briefly stated by Secretary Hayes, who said that while no official action of the association was possible it was desirable that the members present should fully discuss the subject and request the executive board to take fitting action in the matter. The A. L. A. had already entered protest against the first draft of the tariff bill, in which no provision for the free importation of books for libraries was made, and it was now necessary to take action regarding the amendment to the bill, which did not satisfactorily meet the needs of libraries.

Mr. John Thomson, of Philadelphia, stated what had already been done by the various library associations and authorities and described the gratifying attitude taken generally by the press. The proposed amendment to the tariff bill, providing for the free admission of "scientific apparatus, books," etc., did not, he said, in any way cover the case as it had been covered by the tariff law of 1890, and was capable of different and unsatisfactory interpretations. He moved that a committee be appointed to prepare an amendment that would exactly meet the view of the library and other educational interests concerned, and that that committee be deputed to present the matter at Washington, and have the amendments incorporated in the bill before it should leave the senate. The subject was discussed by Messrs. Montgomery, Hill, Billings, Lemcke, Dewey, Stechert, Carr, and Cutter, and it was decided that the action of the association cover the interest of libraries only, and that attention be given to the inclusion of photographs, etchings, etc., intended for library use, in the free list. On substitute motion of Mr. Hill the matter was referred to a committee of five, appointed by the chair, to adopt fitting recommendations and present them at the close of the evening session of the two associations. The following committee was named: Dr. Billings, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Lemcke, Mr. Carr, Miss Haines.

At the evening session the following recommendations were presented, and were unanimously adopted by the members present:

"*Voted*, That the Executive Board of the American Library Association be requested to urge upon Congress, in the name of the association and in behalf of the librarians of the United States and of the people who maintain and use those libraries, a modification of the pending tariff bill by substituting for that portion which relates to the importation of books, etc., free of duty, the provision of the tariff law of 1890, so worded as to make clear its application to all government and public libraries, and the inclusion of engravings, photographs, and etchings imported for their use and not for sale or distribution, as follows:

"'512. Books, engravings, photographs, bound or unbound etchings, maps, and charts, which shall have been printed and bound or manufactured more than 20 years at the date of importation.

"'513. Books and pamphlets printed exclusively in languages other than English; also books and music, in raised print, used exclusively by the blind.

"'514. Books, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, maps and charts imported by authority or for the use of the United States or for the use of the library of Congress.

"'515. Books, maps, *engravings*, *photographs*, *etchings*, lithographic prints, and charts specially imported, not more than two copies in any one invoice, in good faith, for the use of any society incorporated or established for educational, philosophical, literary or religious purposes, or for the encouragement of the fine arts, or for the use or by order of any college, academy, school or seminary of learning, *or government or public library* in the United States, subject to such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.'

"That the Executive Board be asked to have this recommendation personally presented to the Senate Committee, and to request the authorities of all public libraries to take official action in its support."

Similar action to that of the national body has been taken by most of the state and local library associations in the country; individual libraries, have, through their librarians and trustees, entered vigorous protest, and most of the universities and colleges have been prompt to act on similar lines.

*POOLE MEMORIAL.*

THE committee on the Poole Memorial Fund have in hand now the sum of $380. The minimum required is $500, and it is desired to have the bust finished before the next conference. Will all those who wish to be represented in this send in their money at once? Any amount, however small, will be thankfully received.

DR. G. E. WIRE, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

1574 JUDSON AVE., Evanston, Ill.

*PROCEEDINGS.*

THE edition of the Proceedings of the American Library Association, Cleveland Conference, 1896, includes 1000 extra copies for distribution among persons interested, and 1000 copies of the Proceedings of the Trustees' Section, for distribution among library trustees. Members of the association are requested to send to the undersigned the names of any persons to whom copies of the Proceedings should be sent; also names of trustees or others who should receive copies of the Trustees' Section Proceedings.

C: ALEX. NELSON.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, New York City.

*ENGLISH POST-CONFERENCE, JUNE 26–AUGUST 22, 1897.*

ALL members of the A. L. A. and their friends intending to go to the International Library Conference are urged to file their applications and deposit registration fee of $25 at once.

The time chosen is that most desirable for ocean travel, and steamship accommodations are being rapidly taken. It will be necessary for the committee to make promptly a deposit on all berths reserved, and to enable them to do this those who expect to go should remit promptly.

Travel to England is unusually heavy this year, on account of the number who will attend the festivities in connection with the celebration of the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria. It is absolutely necessary, in order to secure comfortable accommodations, to engage them without delay.

The arrangements progress favorably. In addition to the details of itinerary given in circular of March 1, the post-conference excursion for members of the international conference has been arranged as follows:

Leave London on Saturday morning, July 17, from Waterloo station, arriving at Salisbury in time for lunch. Drive to Stonehenge and back to Salisbury Saturday afternoon.

*Sunday, July* 18.—In Salisbury, attending service at the cathedral and visiting points of interest.

*Monday, July* 19.—Drive to Glastonbury, breaking the journey at Wells, then by rail to Cheddar and Weston super Mare, or Clevedon; steamer across the Channel to Cardiff, staying the night at Cardiff.

*Tuesday, July* 20.—Late train Cardiff to Bristol.

*Wednesday, July* 21.—In Bristol.

*Thursday, July* 22.—Leave Bristol and spend the day at Bath.

*Friday, July* 23.—In Bath and vicinity.

*Saturday morning, July* 24,—Leave Bath for Oxford, spending the day at Oxford.

*Sunday, July* 25.—In Oxford.

*Monday, July* 26.—Return to London in morning.

Invitations to continental librarians are meeting with favorable responses and representative librarians from Germany, Belgium, France, and Holland will attend the conference.

The L. A. U. K. has the co-operation of library trustees, councillors of municipalities, and the press, in its efforts to gather in conference representatives from the libraries of the entire world. It was hoped that H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, would preside, but his numerous engagements in connection with the Queen's jubilee make it impossible. During the stay in London the Lord Mayor will give the conference one of his noted dinners, and The Drapers Company and the American Society will extend courtesies. The visit of the American librarians has been brought to the notice of municipal councils, and Edinburgh, Birmingham, Manchester, Bath, and other cities have offered hospitalities and an opportunity of seeing their beauties and treasures under official sanction.

Special privileges will be given the party, and opportunities of seeing and doing things that would be impossible for the private tourist.

To take advantage of these privileges it is essential that the party go together, and especially that they sail and land at the same time. The cities of Liverpool, Birmingham, and Manchester, which it is proposed to visit during the first week after landing and before reaching London, not only have important libraries which our association should see, but have already made preparations for the reception and entertainment of the American delegation. To show proper appreciation of these efforts in our behalf, not only should a large party go, but go by the official route and go together.

While numbers will doubtless be present from other countries, it is on America that our English brethren rely to make the conference a great international event. Wise as we think ourselves we shall find much to learn. A chance to compare methods and views will of course be given. But the grand opportunity will be to publish to the world what libraries have done, are doing, and can do, and to awaken the interest of those who have the means and influence to extend the work.

The itinerary has been arranged to afford an opportunity for those desiring to do so to make a short trip to Paris and other side trips at very moderate additional expense.

Decide at once! Decide to go! Go with the party! Send check for $25 at once to secure your berth!

*For the European Trip Committee,*

H. E. DAVIDSON.

Office of the LIBRARY BUREAU, BOSTON, MASS., March 23, 1897.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

### JOINT MEETING WITH VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

A JOINT meeting of the Vermont Library Commission and the Vermont Library Association was held in Burlington, Vt., at the Billings Library on March 12. The meeting was the result of a decision recently reached by the commission to hold several public meetings this spring with the purpose of increasing public interest in libraries and aiding in their establishment or in the development of libraries already existing.

There were two sessions, the first, from 10 to 12 a.m., being a wholly informal examination of an exhibit of library appliances under the charge of Mr. F. Richmond Fletcher, of the Library Bureau, the visitors being welcomed by Miss Titcomb, of Rutland, and Miss Bartlett, of St. Johnsbury.

The afternoon session opened a 1:30 o'clock with an address of welcome by President Buckham, of the University of Vermont. He congratulated his audience upon this opportunity to determine to a large degree the reading of the next generation of Vermonters, and defined the power to read as a kind of sixth sense, opening the mind to an infinity of influences, good, bad, healthful, harmful.

The subject "How to get a free library for a community" was then presented by Principal S. W. Landon, of the Burlington high school, who cited the provisions of the Vermont law and described the way the library should be organized.

Miss Sarah C. Hagar, of the Fletcher Free Library, read a paper on "How can the public library be made an aid to the schools." She said that teachers and librarians should cooperate and that librarians should attend teachers' meetings.

Miss Louise L. Bartlett, of St. Johnsbury, treated the "Duties of the librarian," showing the work to consist of administering the choice of correct methods, the selection of books, and the bringing of these books before the greatest number of people. Above all, she said, the librarian's personality is what determines the use of the library.

Miss Mary L. Titcomb, of Rutland, speaking on "The selection of books for a small library," said that three things are essential in the making of a useful library, namely, good books, good methods, and a good librarian. The person who selects the books should be in touch with the popular taste. Most libraries are started by books donated by the residents of the community, making it necessary to later carefully weed them out, retaining only the valuable gifts. Judgment and much care should be used in discriminating. Books should be bought on approval and read by some person interested before being finally selected.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary, Public Library, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

### *LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE February meeting was held in the Free Public Library of Oakland, Feb. 11, President Rowell presiding. Mr. John Gilson, one of the trustees of the library, in a short address cordially welcomed the association, and expressed his appreciation of the benefits derived from these meetings. Rev. E. J. Dupuy was introduced, and gave in his "Chat on French libraries" an extended account of the libraries throughout France. In an interesting manner he compared them with the libraries of Germany and America, showing the difference in methods of administration, and the way by which the reader gains access to the books. Dr. D. Danziger followed, with a brilliant address on "Books and bookmen." The speaker showed the most earnest appreciation for all that is wholesome and genuine in literature, but absolute intolerance for the unhealthy, morbid tendency so apparent in many of the writers of to-day. His strictures on novels and novel-reading were somewhat severe, and he scored the literary cormorant without mercy. His ideal librarian was endowed with the superhuman qualities the layman invariably insists upon in describing that impossible creature of his fancy, so far removed, alas! from the matter of fact reality. Dr. Danziger closed with an amusing account of his own experience in authorship. Mr. Robert E. Cowan read a valuable paper on California bibliography covering the period from 1600 to 1889. Mr. Cowan has for some years been a collector of Californiana, and has done important work toward a complete bibliography of the subject. His paper was a summary of this work. The new "Alameda indexer" was exhibited. In general plan it is similar to the "Rudolph indexer," but differs in many essential points. Mr. Harbourne carefully explained the manner of using it, and claimed that in simplicity of construction, in durability, and in convenience of operation it excelled any other device for holding catalog entries. A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

THE regular March meeting was held in the Mercantile Library, San Francisco, on Friday, March 12, President Rowell presiding. The topic of the evening was "Functions of public library trustees," and Judge Ralph C. Harrison, president of the Free Public Library, opened the discussion with a paper on "Trust powers and functions of trustees." The speaker said that integrity of character and unbiassed judgment were pre-eminently required in this responsible position; that the trustee could not act with the same freedom that he might in his own business; that he should keep well within his authority, and never exceed it. In conclusion the speaker quoted at some length the library law in operation in San Francisco.

John G. Brick, trustee of the Alameda Public Library, followed, discussing "The proper size of the board, qualifications, and term of office." Mr. Brick said that the law in regard to library trustees in cities of the fifth class in California was very indefinite. In some towns the officers are elected, while in others they are appointed. He thought it most important that it be determined which was the proper method, and that a uniform law be adopted to prevent possible legal complications. Relief, in this regard, was expected from a bill now pending before the legislature. He thought that five members made a good working board, and that their term of office should be so arranged that at least two would be retained to instruct new members in the working policy of the library. In regard to qualifications, Mr. Brick thought a good business man preferable; "the trustee need not be a professional man or a college graduate, necessarily, but must have a strong sympathy for the work and a real love for books."

Mr. P. J. Healy, trustee of the Mechanics' Institute, chose "The mutual relations of trustee and librarian" for his topic. He pictured the library as it existed in olden times, and said that the relation of trustee to librarian was one of increasing importance. To get the best results there must be complete sympathy and respect between them, one supplementing the other; both working for a common good; "a library in modern times is not a church, nor a school, nor a theatre, but in some respects it stands for all these, and a museum and art gallery as well; so that he who is able to take advantage of it may find within its walls the thought of the ages preserved in the most pleasing form."

A general discussion followed, in which Mr. Nash, of Stanford University, Judge Harrison, and Miss Hancock, of Sacramento, took part.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

THE Colorado Library Association held its regular monthly meeting at the High School Building, Denver, on March 12.

The subject was "Children's reading: opinions and suggestions of teachers." The meeting was largely attended by teachers, who took part in the discussion. J. C. Dana, of the Public Library, led the discussion. He had previously sent to teachers throughout the city circulars asking for answers to questions as to how much reading should be done, and what kind of books should be given children up to 12 years of age. Could they be taught to appreciate good literature, and at what age? What class of books can they be most interested in? and other questions of a similar character. (*See* p. 187.) These questions and the answers received were tabulated and read, each question being discussed in order. The results indicate that children do not, as a rule, read enough outside of their school-work, and that it is possible for teachers to interest them in the better class of books and encourage them to read more by selecting reading-matter for them.

George M. Lee spoke on the state library commission bill, and reported that the outlook for its passage was more favorable.

Superintendent J. H. Van Sickle, who attended the last conference of the N. E. A., gave an interesting talk on the round table meeting of the library section of that organization.

President A. E. Whitaker spoke on library matters in Boulder. The association held its last meeting at that city, and appointed a committee to organize a public library there. Mr. Whitaker reported that no definite action had been taken as yet, but that the committee was active.

Dr. Mary Barker Bates was appointed a delegate to represent the association at the conference of the Educational Alliance of Denver.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary.*

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Chicago Ill.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

THE next meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club will be held on Thursday, April 22, in the Boston Public Library, at 10 a.m. The subject is to be "Book illustration," and among the speakers will be Mr. Winthrop S. Scudder, Mr. Louis Prang, and Mrs. Mary D. Hicks. In the afternoon the club is invited to visit the Riverside Press.

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* J: B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

JOINT MEETING WITH PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE first joint meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club was held at the Grand Atlantic Hotel in Atlantic City, N. J., on Monday and Tuesday, April 5 and 6. The meeting was a large and successful one, the registration showing an attendance of 130, and the number of persons present from other states made it seem almost a small A. L. A. conference rather than a large local gathering. Among those present were Melvil Dewey, Dr. J. S. Billings, R. P. Hayes, H. L. Elmendorf, W. R. Eastman, C. A. Cutter, C. C. Soule, R. R. Bowker, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Carr, T. L. Montgomery, John Thomson, F. P. Hill, E. C. Richardson, W. H. Lowdermilk, F. W. Faxon, Miss James, Miss Kroeger, Miss Hull, Miss Burdick, and many others. Fully half of those present came down on Saturday afternoon and spent Sunday and part of Monday in exploring Atlantic City and investigating the delights of the sideshows and other enticements that line the shore side of the famous boardwalk.

On Monday morning all who were members of the A. L. A. met separately in a special session at 11 o'clock to consider the steps best to be taken to procure a satisfactory amendment to the Dingley tariff bill as it was passed by the house. The report of this meeting and the resolutions adopted are given elsewhere (*see* p. 202).

The first session of the joint meeting was held Monday evening at eight o'clock. The main purpose of the convention was to forcibly present to the citizens and local authorities the need of a free public library in Atlantic City, which has a resident population of about 20,000, with a summer population mounting up toward the hundred thousands. The first session was therefore almost wholly devoted to a presentation of what a free library can do in a community and to the means whereby it may be established. Mr. Carr, president of the Pennsylvania Library Club, presided, and introduced Mayor F. P. Stoy, who cordially welcomed the association and expressed his hope that at the time of the next joint meeting the visiting librarians might be entertained by the Atlantic City Free Public Library. Mr. Richardson, of Princeton, and Mr. Carr responded gracefully to the words of welcome, in behalf of the two associations, and the business of the session was opened by a paper on "The benefit of a public library to the people," by Miss Hannah P. James, of the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre.

Miss James spoke of the public library as a source of help and of inspiration for all time, bringing to us the bequest of the centuries that have gone before us, and she reviewed briefly the great change that had taken place in its administration and development within the past 45 years. She thought that the library, while reaching out as widely as possible to all the people, should be carefully guarded from the danger of admitting "books that are not only valueless but are mentally and morally bad," even on the plea that these books will draw readers who might not otherwise come to the library. She spoke of the broadening out of library work in recent years through the schools, through clubs, and home libraries, and of the wonderful influence that this great fabric of public education and culture, now building, must have upon the generations yet to come.

"What the state could do to foster free public libraries" was the next topic upon the program, and was discussed by Mr. Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia, Mr. Montgomery, of

Wagner Free Institute, and Mr. Weeks, of Newark. Mr. Thomson argued that education does not end with the public schools and that it is the duty of the state to provide the tools of trade for those who cannot go to college by putting at their disposal books useful in their various occupations. Every city, town, and village should be supplied with books, and the state ought to appropriate funds for the establishment of such libraries. Mr. Montgomery discussed what the state was likely to do—which he thought would be very little, and what the people could do for themselves and to obtain action from the state. Mr. Weeks spoke of what the people could do for themselves; he thought that "the state should not provide us with something we do not get ourselves, if it is not worth working for, it is not worth getting." He briefly reviewed the library record of New Jersey, where in 1879 a law was passed authorizing city councils to establish a library tax levy of one-sixth of a mill. In 1889 an act was passed providing that one-third of a mill might be voted by cities and assessed upon themselves as a library fund, and in 1890 this privilege was extended to townships and other smaller municipalities. Yet in New Jersey, where there are now 36 cities, no public library was ever established under the law of 1879, and but 17 free public libraries have been founded in the 13 years since 1884.

A discussion then followed on "The establishment of a free public library in Atlantic City," which was opened by the Rev. T. J. Cross, of Atlantic City, who urged that the importance of the matter be not put out of sight under the ever-present plea of "economy." John F. Hall, editor of the *Atlantic Daily Union*, said that he was pleased to see the sea-serpent welcoming the book-worm to Atlantic City, and spoke briefly on a public library as the one thing now needed by the city. The other speakers were Melvil Dewey, who strongly urged the necessity of supplying people with good literature in these days when all are taught to read, and "yellow journalism" flourishes, and described the library as the great corner-stone of public education; and F. P. Hill, of the Newark Public Library, who closed the discussion.

The second session was held on Tuesday morning at 9:30, and was opened by Prof. A. H. Smyth, of the Boys' Central High School of Philadelphia, with a paper on "The choice of books for a seaside library," in which he gave the Atlantic City people many useful ideas and suggestions, although the exclusion of light fiction seemed rather startling, as the seashore in summer is generally thought to be the place for such reading.

The "Prospects of the Princeton University Library" were then described by Prof. E. C. Richardson in a delightful talk, illustrated by blue prints and photographs of the magnificent new building now in process of construction at Princeton.

The question-box was next in order, and half a dozen questions relating to the means and methods of establishing a library in Atlantic City were propounded and answered. This was followed by an excellent series of papers on "The public library and the child," by Miss Emma L. Adams, of the Plainfield (N. J.) Public Library, Miss Alice M. Kroeger, of Drexel Institute, and Miss Mary P. Farr, of the Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia. Excellent suggestions were made as to the best methods by which to educate children's taste toward something better than Alger, Adams, Finley, or the "yellow journalism"; stories of imagination and fancy were given a foremost place in the best "children's reading"; and the "forcing process," whereby the healthy child was transformed into a book-worm, was deprecated. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Bowker suggested what would be an unique bibliography—a list annotated by children for themselves. The difficulty of finding suitable reading-matter for servants was also brought up. Miss James found no trouble with that class, as they read Ben Hur, Amelia Barr, and Dinah Mulock Craik's books, but it was thought that some attention might well be given to the subject.

The subject of the English post-conference trip of the A. L. A. was briefly presented by Mr. Elmendorf, who drew a delightful picture of the lavish hospitality awaiting the American librarians at the hands of their cousins across the seas. Mr. Dewey then spoke of the convention of the N. E. A., to be held in Milwaukee in July of this year, and urged the library associations to be represented at that conference by delegates. The meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

Most of those present departed by afternoon trains, but a few remained over until the next day and pursued further their bicycling researches along the Jersey coast. Although the meeting was not allowed three days of uninterrupted fair weather, the charms of Atlantic City, in sunshine and in fog, were voted many and varied, and they were fully tested, from the simplicity of ocean, beach, and sky, to the complex civilization of the board-walk, where the librarians abandoned their hobbies of classification or charging systems for the fiery charger of the merry-go-round, and indulged in the varied excitements of salt-water taffy, Japanese tea-gardens, the biograph, "nature's wonderland," and "Parisian illusions." Joint meetings are a success.*

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton,

*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

* This statement is doubly proven, as the JOURNAL goes to press, by the news that Atlantic City, by a unanimous vote, has adopted a resolution favorable to a free library.

THE executive board of the Ohio Library Association, 1896–97, held its first meeting of the year at Columbus, on March 4. The president, Dr. A. W. Whelpley, of Cincinnati, Miss Doren, secretary; the vice-presidents, Mr. Frank Conover, of Dayton, Miss Martha Mercer, of Mansfield, and the treasurer, C. B. Galbreath, of Columbus, were present. A. S. Root, of Oberlin, and E. M. Monfort, of Marietta, sent letters of regret and offered some valuable suggestions relative to the work of the association in the coming year.

On invitation of the board, Mr. W. H. Brett, and Miss Alice Boardman, the former president and the former secretary, and Mr. Rutherford P. Hayes, of the state library commission, were present at the business meeting, which took place in the afternoon at the state library.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting of the association, October 6–7, at Cincinnati. After outlining the general features of the program and appointing the committees for the year, the proof-sheets of the O. L. A. handbook were submitted by the secretary, and being approved it was ordered to be printed.

The members of the board were delightfully entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes at the Columbus Club. After lunch a visit was paid to the two pleasant public libraries of the city, the public school library and the city library. The document-room of the state library also afforded a refreshing sight, having been reclaimed in the past year through the energy of Mr. Hayes and the state librarian from a shocking condition of dust and decay. The board and the library council of Columbus were entertained in the evening at the home of President and Mrs. Canfield, of the Ohio State University. Interesting informal talks from Mr. Whelpley, Mr. Brett, and others were followed by general discussion upon library topics.

THE association was duly placed on record with a vigorous and telling letter of protest against the proposed duty upon foreign books brought into the country for public libraries. The letter drawn up by Dr. A. W. Whelpley, the president, and signed by the vice-president and the secretary, was sent promptly to the Ohio senators, and Hon. Nelson Dingley and other representatives.

HANDBOOK.

The handbook of the Ohio Library Association for 1896–97 has just been issued. It is a small 16-page pamphlet, giving in full officers, committees, members, and constitution, with a brief history of the association since its organization in February, 1895.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

THE February meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held, on the invitation of the Board of Directors of City Trusts, on Monday, March 8, in the library of Girard College, Philadelphia. The librarian, Mr. George P. Rupp, had made arrangements for the reception of his visitors, which were highly appreciated by those who were present. The handsome library-room was decorated with flowers and palms, and an inspection of the books was accorded before the meeting was called to order.

In the absence of the president, Henry J. Carr, the vice-president, Mr. John Thomson, of the Free Library, took the chair. The business of the meeting consisted of a statement as to the legislation pending at Harrisburg, and Mr. John Edmands, of the Mercantile Library, moved that the club cordially endorse the steps which had been taken to extend the act of 1895. After some discussion this was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Thomson then stated in some detail the arrangements for the union meeting of the New Jersey Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club to be held at Atlantic City, on April 5 and 6.

Miss Agnes Repplier then gave a charming address on "The genesis of the novel." She compared the struggle of the male and female novelists for supremacy in that department of literature, emphasized the benefits of reading good novels, and from such instances as the generous and cordial sympathy of Sir Walter Scott towards Jane Austen showed how true artists regard the work achieved and not the individual or sex accomplishing success. Miss Repplier dwelt upon the painfully insufficient remuneration received by authors for brilliant work, but showed that she herself was an optimist in her estimate of the benefits bestowed upon the world by its great novelists.

James W. King, managing editor of the *Philadelphia Press*, then gave an address upon the making and daily production of a newspaper. He entered into many details of the sums expended to procure news; held up the curtain of secrecy as to the salaries paid to the heads of various departments and urged that hundreds of bright young women now working in stenography, typewriting, libraries, and book-stores would do well to adopt "journalism" as an outlet for their industry, promising that they would have a taste of every kind of work from attending a great fire to writing columns of designs for dresses and theatre hats.

After a vote of thanks to the speakers by Mr. Joseph G. Rosengarten, the meeting broke up and a pleasant social half hour followed.

FOR report of the joint meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club, *see* p. 206.

THE next meeting of the club will be held on May 10 in the newest of the branches of the Free Library at Chestnut Hill. It is anticipated that a large number will avail themselves of the opportunity to visit this cheerful library. The principal subject of the evening will be "Bookbinding as a part of library machinery." This branch was taken into the Free Library system on February 1, and an increase in cir-

culation has already taken place exceeding 100 per cent.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.
*Secretary-Treasurer:* W: R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

THE regular meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the lecture-room of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Thursday, March 11, at 10 a.m.

About 25 members were present and the meeting proved to be the most interesting one yet held. The subject, "The library and the children," was of interest to every one, and the discussions following the several papers were well supported by the members. Miss Macrum, of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, read a paper on the "Relation of libraries to schools"; Miss Wales, of the Carnegie Free Library, Braddock, spoke of the children's department; and Mr. Turner, of the Cambria Free Library, Johnstown, read a paper on "Home libraries."

A joint committee from the club and the Charitable Association of the city was appointed to see about establishing a system of home libraries. The Woman's Club, a local organization, has already begun work in this line and finds the children eager for books. It is hoped that by joining forces a more effectual system can be established.

After discussing the contents of the question-box the meeting was adjourned. The public will be invited to attend the next meeting, which will be held in May.

WILLIAM RICHARD WATSON,
*Secretary-Treasurer.*

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.
*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.
*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.
*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.
*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

THE association has received a gift of 300 books, contributed by persons in Chicago interested in the work of the travelling libraries. This is the largest gift yet received, and with other smaller donations of books recently sent in will be sufficient to equip 10 more libraries.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.
*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison Street.

THE Chicago Library Club held its last regular meeting of the year in the library-rooms of the Lewis Institute, Chicago, March 4, 1897, at eight o'clock, p.m.

A cordial welcome was extended to the members of the club by Mr. C. W. Mann, of the Lewis Institute, who also gave a brief historical sketch of the institution.

A report from the committee on editing a union list of periodicals was submitted by the chairman, Mr. Andrews. It has been decided to use the "consolidated list" of the Boston public libraries as a basis for this work, leaving the question of any modifications of its rules and scope to be considered after the replies and suggestions of the various libraries have been received. The committee hope to have the list completed by the opening of another year.

Following this report, an interesting paper on "The decorative illustration of books" was read by Mr. W. Irving Way, who exhibited many rare and beautiful books and manuscripts in illustration of his theme.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library; 1st vice-president, W. W. Bishop, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston; 2d vice-president, W: S. Merrill, Newberry Library; Secretary, Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute; Treasurer, Miss M. E. Ahern, editor *Public Libraries*.

MARGARET MANN, *Secretary.*

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

AT a meeting of the Round Table held on Wednesday, March 10, Mr. F: W. Faxon, of the Boston Book Co., gave an informal and pleasant talk on his trip abroad and his impressions of English libraries.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss M. W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.
*Secretary:* Miss J. A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.
*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, Long Island Historical Society, Brooklyn.

THE March meeting of the New York Library Club was held in the Astor Library on March 11, at 7:45 p.m. The meeting was held in the evening, as it was not possible for the Astor to receive the club in the afternoon. There was an attendance of about 60 persons.

The committee on the Massachusetts fiction lists reported that the Massachusetts Library Club had decided to continue the lists, but asked for financial co-operation, which the committee recommended that the New York club give. The report was accepted.

In accordance with the request voted at the January meeting, two delegates, Dr. G. E. Wire and Miss Rathbone, were appointed to represent the club at the meeting of the National Educational Association at Milwaukee in July.

Mr. William C. Kimball, trustee of the Passaic (N. J.) Public Library, and Miss Louise Hueser, librarian-in-charge of the New York Free Circulating Library at 330 Sixth avenue, were elected members of the club.

The subject of the evening was "Some recent bibliographical projects." Dr. John S. Billings, of the New York Public Library, spoke on the plan for indexing scientific publications decided on at the international conference held in London in July last. The suggestion of a co-operative index of scientific papers, periodicals, and transactions, he said, originated with Prof. Joseph Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, in 1847. The idea was not then taken up, but in 1857 the Royal Society of London began their well-known index of scientific periodicals, of which 11 volumes have appeared. In response to the growing demand for a subject index, the Royal Society appointed a committee, about three years ago, to investigate the subject of an international index. This investigation resulted in an invitation from the English government to the governments of the civilized world to an international conference of scientists. The result of this conference was the decision to undertake the issuing of a subject index of scientific articles (not including the applied sciences). Each country is to index its own publications, while the whole list is to be edited and printed at the central bureau in London. The index is to be issued on cards or galley-slips and in book form from time to time. Work is to begin January 1, 1900; the Royal Society Catalogue is to be completed by that time.

It would seem that the coming century is to be the bibliographers' millennium, for following upon Dr. Billings's account of the prospective realization of one fond hope, Mr. Theobald Solberg unfolded a still wider and more Utopian plan — no less than the project of a universal catalog of all printed books. The present time, he said, demands not only a prompter and more complete record of book production, but a more exact and elaborate record. This need is not only current but retroactive, and one of the sure claims upon the coming century is, not only that it shall produce its complete weekly, monthly, or yearly catalog, but that it shall go back and recatalog the world's books according to the new methods. The need for these two things, a regular periodic publication of all the titles of all current books and great national bibliographies, adequately cataloging all published books, is becoming greater daily. The great improvement in bibliographical machinery makes this vast project practicable and the establishment of the International Copyright Union renders its accomplishment possible.

The International Copyright Union was created in 1887 for the purpose of extending reciprocal copyright protection in each country of the union to works produced by the authors of the several countries within the union. To aid in carrying this out, an International Copyright Bureau was established in Berne, and a monthly journal entitled *Le Droit d'Auteur*, issued since January 15, 1888. Among the contents of *Le Droit d'Auteur* are a series of elaborate annual summaries of the book production of the countries for which figures were available. The incompleteness of this record, together with the want of uniformity in the method of preparing and classifying the titles, led to the suggestion that the titles of all books copyrighted within the countries of the International Copyright Union be registered at the bureau at Berne. From this suggestion the next step naturally was that the Berne Bureau be charged to prepare, first, classified statistics of the literary, artistic, dramatic, and musical works published within the countries of the union; second, a catalog of these works by author and title. This latter broadened into a proposal to carry such a catalog back to the date of the Berne treaty, December 5, 1887, by compilations by each country of all copyright literature produced since that date. From this point it was but a single leap to a conception of a universal catalog of books going back to the very origin of printing. This plan has been discussed at several congresses of the International Literary and Artistic Association, and though no definite action has yet been taken, the problems involved are being studied with thoroughness and an earnest and intelligent interest that bodes well for action in the future.

A brief discussion followed this paper. Mr. Bowker called attention to the mines of valuable matter hidden away in the transactions of local learned societies. Progress has been made, he said, in American bibliography of the early part of the century; existing material is to be taken as the foundation and the gaps filled up.

A SPECIAL meeting of the club was called Wednesday afternoon, March 23, at Columbia University, to protest against the omission from the free list in the Dingley tariff bill of books and apparatus for the use of libraries and other educational institutions. The meeting was well attended. Dr. J. S. Billings, of the New York Public Library, the chairman of the committee appointed to take necessary action, spoke of the necessity of librarians working actively in opposition to the proposed measure. Resolutions reciting the previous tariff legislation on the subject and urging the restoration of the privileges heretofore accorded were passed, copies of which the secretary was instructed to send to the secretaries of the library associations throughout the country, to the congressmen and senators from New York, and to the members of the club. The committee, consisting of Dr. Billings, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Bostwick, was continued with power.

A MEETING of the club will be held on the afternoon of Thursday, April 22, at the Library of the Y. M. C. A. Railroad Branch, 361 Madison Ave., New York City.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons U. S. Naval Observatory.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.*

THE department of library economy of Amherst Summer School will open for the usual summer session on July 5. The course covers six weeks, or until August 13, and will, as heretofore, be conducted by W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College. There are no special requirements for admission, but applicants are expected to have had a reasonably thorough education and to show some special aptitude for work among books. The course is not intended to fit one for immediate expert work, but is especially adapted for persons already engaged in library work, but who have had no special training and who desire to become familiar with approved methods and recognized standards. Instruction is given daily (except Saturday) from 10 to 12 a.m. in the form of lectures by Mr. Fletcher, presenting the whole field of library work; afternoon sessions, from 2 to 4 o'clock, will be devoted to practice by the pupils in various forms of work. The tuition fee for the course is $15, and arrangements will be made, if desired, for persons desiring other work than the library course. Intending pupils are advised to provide themselves in advance with "The Library School rules of cataloging," published by the Library Bureau at $1.25. Further information may be obtained by addressing W. I. Fletcher, Amherst, Mass.

## Reviews.

HEWINS, Caroline M., *comp.* Books for boys and girls: a selected list. Published for the A. L. A. Publishing Section by the Library Bureau, 1897. (A. L. A. annotated lists, small series, no. 9.) 31 p. 10c.

There can be no question as to the great practical usefulness of this capital little list. It will find its special field among the smaller town and village libraries, and the school-room libraries, constantly increasing in number, and indeed it would seem to be almost more useful to the teacher than to the librarian. Its limited scope is one of its chief merits, for it is never so difficult to select widely for a large library as it is to choose the best books that may be had for little money. Miss Hewins lists about 200 authors, including some 300 volumes. Her selection is prefaced with a few helpful suggestions as to what makes good reading for boys and girls, and what the children themselves prefer. The books are grouped in classes, opening with a dozen "illustrated books for the youngest children," and including books on science, and out-door life, animal stories, stories of home and school life, travel and adventure, child life in various countries, and history and historical stories and biographies arranged by countries. Four magazines, *Harper's Round Table*, the *Observer*, *St. Nicholas*, and *Youth's Companion*, are included. The annotations are of the briefest, and aim to make clear the special suitability of the book, as in the note to the "Peterkin" books, which are said to be "amusing and good for dreamy and unpractical children." Books for children under eight or ten years are specially indicated. Upon the selection as a whole it is unnecessary to dwell. Miss Hewins is fitted by years of practical experience for the work, and from her choice there will be few dissenting voices. She has included a number of the more old-fashioned favorites, such as Miss Edgeworth and the "Rollo" books, which are too apt to be neglected by the children of to-day, and the plentiful allowance of fairy-tales is most welcome. In the selection of books for any purpose no two persons will ever wholly agree, and probably every one who looks over this list could regret some omission or suggest an exclusion. But to better it as a whole would not be an easy task. It meets adequately a special want, and it should prove one of those small library "necessaries" of which we hardly realize the need until that need is met.

ILES, George, *ed.* Annotated bibliography of fine art: painting, sculpture, architecture, arts of decoration and illustration, by Russell Sturgis; music, by H: E: Krehbiel. Boston, for the A. L. A. Pub. Section by the Library Bureau, 1897. (American Library Association annotated lists), 3 l., 89 p., O. pap., 50 c.; cl., $1.

Mr. Iles is fortunate in the work with which his series begins. He has set a high standard which subsequent volumes will equal with difficulty. In this volume he took the only method that will insure success; he secured the services of two persons thoroughly competent in their respective departments. Indeed, the possibility of finding such annotators must determine whether any subject shall be included; for it is worse that work of this kind should be ill done than that it should not be done at all.

No public library can afford to neglect art nowadays, and therefore few can dispense with this list. In old times I have seen more than one small library that had not a single book on art. Probably it would be impossible to find any such now. Everywhere a class of readers interested in the subject is springing up, a state of things due outside of the large cities in part to European travel, but in greater measure to *Harper's*, *Century*, and other illustrated magazines. This new hunger must be supplied with food. With the present bibliography in hand it is easy to provide good food. It would not be a bad thing to buy every one of the works mentioned here; but that is beyond the ability of most libraries. The notes, however, though brief, are so made as to guide buyers to the choice of those works that will suit the especial interest of each. But showing on what works a library should spend its first money is not all that Mr. Sturgis has done for the librarian. His notes are such interesting reading, partly because they are so full of *obiter dicta*, that one might almost form from them for oneself a theory of art study.

Mr. Krehbiel's notes are as serviceable as Mr. Sturgis's, but they are less discursive.

Both bibliographies are carefully adjusted to the wants of the non-professional reader, and yet the artist and the musician will not disdain their assistance.

The index is excellent. 15 pages of index to 74 pp. of text seems a large allowance; but this extent is not attained by padding; the work is judiciously planned to make consultation easy; and though it might perhaps have been made a little shorter by abbreviating words, nothing else could be be left out without loss.

C: A. C.

## Library Economy and History.

### LOCAL.

*Bridgeport* (*Ct.*) *P. L.* On March 6 the art department of the library was opened for an exhibition of water-color paintings, pen and ink and other black and white work, being the third display of the kind that has been shown there. About 250 examples of the work of many well-known artists and illustrators were exhibited.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *P. L. A.* The first annual meeting of the association was held on March 29, at the home of the president, Mrs. C: O. H. Craigie. The year's report was read by Mrs. B: F. Stevens. The society was started on Jan. 2. 1896, with nine members. On March 19 following a provisional charter was granted by the regents of the state of New York, the charter members numbering 10. During the year there have been eight public meetings held in private houses, 12 business meetings, and one meeting at the Academy of Music in conjunction with the state library association and the New York Library Club. At present there are 97 members. A board of nine directors was appointed by the mayor on Jan. 14, and a bill increasing the number to 21 is now pending in Albany. Several hundred books have been promised, and 95 v. were collected at a book reception held Feb. 2. The financial statement showed $99 received and $75.51 expended. It was decided to ask the public by means of circular letters and newspaper notices, to contribute books to the association; and a formal protest was entered against the proposed duty on books in the pending tariff bill. Mrs. C: O. H. Craigie was re-elected president, Mrs. B: F. Stevens was elected secretary, and Mrs. I: H. Cary, treasurer.

Early in March the matter of a site was discussed by members of the association, and the mayor has designated a spacious plot on the city lands next Prospect Park.

*Buffalo* (*N. Y.*) *P. L.* On March 23 the directors adopted rules and regulations for the library under its new organization as a free stitution. J. N. Larned was elected superintendent and W. P. Reed treasurer. The resolutions provide that the library shall be open all week-days, except legal holidays, from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m. for eight months in the year, and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. during the four months June to September. The circulating department, however, need not be open after 8 p.m. in these four months, or after 9 p.m. during the remainder of the year. On Sundays and holidays the library shall be open for reading-room use from 12 m. until 10 p.m. The two-book system will be used, and extra book permits will be issued for special study purposes; a special card on which two extra books not in unusual demand may be drawn will be issued on payment of $3 per year, or 10 cents for each book.

*Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L.* (23d rpt., 1896.) Added 624; total 24,000. Issued, home use 52,829 (fict. and juv. 33,363); no statistics of ref. use are kept. New registration 938.

The circulation shows an increase of 4067 over the previous year, with a larger proportion of juvenile books.

*Chicago* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* It is unlikely that the entire new building will be ready for occupancy before July, although several of the rooms on the ground floor are already in use for the less used departments, as patent reports, public documents, etc. There is still considerable marble-work to be completed, the furniture and fixtures are not yet in place, and in all about $400,000 worth of work is yet to be done. The article published some weeks since in a Chicago daily, describing the new building and its decorations, was, Mr. Hild writes, quite inaccurate and unauthorized by the library authorities.

*Des Moines* (*Ia.*) *P. L.* The following statement sums up concisely the legal complications in which the library has been involved since the autumn of 1896: In September, 1896, an injunction suit was brought against the library trustees to prevent the collection of a special three-mill tax for a building fund. This tax was levied a year and a half ago by the city council, and the injunction suit was brought by a few citizens upon the ground that the council had no right to make such a levy unless an indebtedness had previously been created which the income from this levy should cancel, and that was not the case in this instance. At the time this levy was made there was, so far as the trustees knew, no objection to it, so in the summer of 1896 another levy of three mills for a building fund was made, under the law passed in that year permitting library trustees to fix the amount, instead of the city council. At the same time the usual tax of one mill for maintenance was asked for. It was after this action, taken in August, that the injunction suit was brought, and closely following this the city council refused to make the building levy which had been asked for, and also cut down the tax for maintenance to ½ mill, the income from which will not pay the current expenses of the library. The trustees, after an unsuccessful attempt to compromise the matter by reducing the building levy to one mill, brought a mandamus suit against the council, which has been decided against the library in the lower court. This court had previously decided the injunction suit against the library, but at the time the decision was rendered in the man-

damus case the judge reversed his decision in the injunction case, deciding that the library should be allowed to collect the building tax. Both cases have been appealed to the Supreme Court, and are to be tried at the May term, so that the outcome of the matter is still uncertain, although there seems to be good reason to believe that the final decision will be in favor of the right of the trustees to levy the tax.

*Detroit* (*Mich.*) *P. L.* (32d rpt., 1896.) Added 7143; total 146,503. Issued, home use 463,915 (fict. 53.58 %, juv. 20.39 %), of which 93,744 were issued from the schools; lib. use 427,214; use of unbound periodicals 185,658. New registration 6462; total cards in use 28,625 (population of city 238,264). Receipts $80,452.65; expenses $71,278.42.

"During the year 5884 v. were bound by contract in outside binderies at a cost of $3148.80, an average of a little over 53 cents per v. The library bindery was maintained at a cost of $1123.85, for the repair of books and pasting of labels, etc. In this shop 11,680 books were repaired, 1450 books were resewed and recased, besides other work done."

Mr. Utley devotes the greater part of his interesting report to an account of the work done in supplying books to the various schools of the city, and in directing, so far as possible, the school-children to good reading. As the same subject is presented by him elsewhere in this issue a summary is unnecessary here; but the methods and results described in this report should be studied by librarians who desire to work toward a similar co-operation between library and school. The children's room, provided for in the enlargement of the building, and opened May 28, has proved most popular; it is estimated that 42,270 books were used here during the seven months it was open, but as access to the shelves is allowed, accurate statistics are impracticable.

"A new departure was taken late in the year in placing upon the shelves some 70 volumes of books printed in Braille type for the use of the blind. The matter was first agitated in the newspapers and appeared to strike a popular chord at once. Several blind persons who had small libraries of their own volunteered to present a number of books to the library for the benefit of their blind friends. These with the books bought by the commission form quite a collection, which is already bring great joy and comfort to a dozen or more of those who are shut out from all the privileges which sight affords."

The library now possesses a medical library of about 3000 v., the nucleus of which was the collection of the Detroit Medical Library Association, transferred to the care of the public library. It is proposed to make a thorough and complete analytical subject card catalog of this collection.

*Dover* (*N. H.*) *P. L.* (14th rpt., 1896.) Added 1127; total 21,762. Issued, home and school use 71,362 (fict. and juv. 68 %, as against 71 % in 1895); visitors to reading-room 21,498; no record of ref. use is kept. Receipts $3637.18; expenses $3623.71.

The decrease in the circulation of fiction and juveniles, Miss Garland says, "is not because people read less fiction, but because they read more non-fiction. It is probably due to two causes: one is the large use of students' cards in the hands of school-children, and the number of good books used by the teachers in the schools, and the other is the constantly increasing use of magazines for home reading." Magazines, indeed, constitute nine per cent. of the whole circulation. During the year an exhibition of amateur photography was held which was visited by about 1000 persons. "Another forward movement is the increasing general access to the shelves. This has come about gradually and quietly. It began by letting well-known persons who were looking up special subjects go directly to the shelf to make their own selections. From this it was an easy step to letting persons interested in one author, keep an account of what was in by that author. There is hardly any privilege more highly prized than that of the actual handling of books. The only reason that it may not freely obtain is the possibility of loss. The experience of those libraries that admit freely to the shelf, however, goes to show that people generally may be safely trusted not to abuse a desired privilege. The librarian would be glad to make this custom more general than it is at present, and to allow any one who would like, by simply asking permission at the desk, to go to the shelf to select his books."

The privilege of borrowing special books from the state library, express charges being paid by the borrower, has been frequently used and is generally appreciated.

*Ellington* (*Ct.*) *F. L.* The library was opened on March 17, with about 1000 v. on the shelves; it occupies a room in the home of Miss Lizzie Kibbe, who acts as librarian, and is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays of each week.

*Evanston* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* Within the past few weeks much annoyance has been caused by the mutilation of library books. Among the acts of vandalism reported was the cutting out of the map of California from one of the large Rand & McNally atlases, and the removal of the valuable 50-p. bibliography from Ely's "Socialism and social reform." Another book was deliberately burned through a dozen or more pages with some red-hot sharp-pointed iron instrument. None of the vandals have been discovered, but the city council has passed an ordinance imposing a fine of not less than $5 or more than $50 on any one who may disfigure or mutilate a library book. It has also passed an ordinance with regard to the persistent keeping of books against the rules of the library by which a fine of not less than $1 nor more than $10 is imposed on any borrower who ignores the "overdue" notice sent out by the librarian; the usual fine of two cents per day for overtime detention of a book has always been imposed.

*Illinois, lib. legislation in.* On March 12 a bill providing for the establishment of a state library commission was introduced into the state senate by Senator Stubblefield and into the house by Representative Rowe. It provides for the appointment, on July 1, by the governor, of five commissioners who shall serve without compensation, one for five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year; and thereafter the terms of office shall be for five years, or until their successors have been appointed and qualified; all vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the governor. The sum of $1000 shall be annually appropriated for travelling expenses, and the board shall give advice and counsel to libraries in the state as to details of management, etc., and shall aid in the establishment of new libraries and the improvement of those already existing. The bill is strongly backed by the state library association, and has the support of the state teachers' association.

*Indiana, lib. bill defeated.* The bill introduced into the state legislature by Senator McCord, providing for a "state library system in connection with the schools of the state," and noted in the L. J. for February (p. 106), was defeated in the house on March 1 by a vote of 41 noes to 39 ayes. It is to be hoped that no attempt to revive the measure will be made, but that a bill more in accord with best methods of library legislation may be prepared and introduced in the near future.

*Indiana State L., Indianapolis.* (Biennial rpt. — Oct. 1, '94 – Oct. 1, '96.) Added 1533 v., 520 pm.; total not given. Newspaper readers in reading-room 7352; v. used in reading-room 6954. Mrs. Davidson says that the number of requests for information received at the library from colleges and clubs of the state would seem to indicate the desirability of a system of travelling libraries.

*Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L.* (6th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '96.) Added 4460; total "about 51,000 v."; bound and rebound 8949 v., of which 7901 were bound in the library. Issued, home use 402,450 (fict. 55.32 %, juv. fict. 25.82 %), of which 232,174 were issued through the delivery stations; ref. use 35,391; visitors to reading-room 100,648. New registration 3302; total borrowers 29,962. Receipts $55,084.96; expenses $52,379.61.

Miss Burdick says: "That the reading public of Jersey City appreciates its privileges, is shown in the high rate of the circulation *per capita*, nearly 2¼ v. having been loaned for every man, woman, and child of the community." The record for the year is an excellent one, showing a constant and steady increase in the reference use of the library and in the work done by it for the school-children. "The one crying need at present is for more room."

*Kansas City (Mo.) P. L.* (15th rpt. — year ending June 30, '96; *in* annual rpt. of public schools, p. 225 – 233.) Added 2019; total no given. Issued 62,299 (fict. 22,884, juv. 29,329); reading-room use 129,356.

"The past year has been an unusually busy one. In view of the removal into the new building, special efforts have been made to improve the facilities of the various departments." For eight years the library has had a children's room, and special attention has been given to the establishment of this department in the new building. "For the 'art-room' a complete 'art catalog' has been made. Not alone are all his works given under an artist's name, but each picture is cataloged under its title, to make it expedient to find art subjects. All art books and art magazines in the library are indexed in this catalog."

*Kenosha (Wis.) P. L.* On March 14 the library completed its first year of work. During that time 20,962 v. were issued, and the growth in the use and circulation of books has been constant.

*Lancaster (Mass.) P. L.* (34th rpt., 1896 – 1897.) Added 788; total 26,943. Issued, home use 14,322 (fict. and juv. 57 %). There were 1521 v. issued for school use. New registration 125; total registration 1772. Receipts and expenses $1720.21.

A collection of 350 American posters were on exhibition in the library for a fortnight in September, and attracted many visitors. Appended to the report is a "catalog of books added to the library since March 1, 1896."

*Leadville, Colo.* At a public meeting held March 12 the Leadville Public Library Association was organized and a constitution adopted. The membership fee was placed at $3 yearly.

*Leicester (Mass.) P. L.* At a meeting of the trustees held on March 8 it was decided that the library should be opened on Sunday afternoon for reading-room use only, from three to five o'clock.

*Maryland State L., Annapolis.* Early in March work on cataloging the library began. Miss Fornance, a graduate of the Drexel Institute library class, has been engaged for the work, which is being done according to the Dewey classification.

*Massachusetts State L., Boston.* The *Scientific American, Building edition*, of February, gives two pages of illustrations and a column and a half of text, describing "the new Massachusetts State Library building at Boston."

*Menomonie, Wis.* The librarians and officers of the Stout Free Travelling Libraries held their second conference at Menomonie on March 22. Owing to the floods and the almost impassable roads only representatives of the travelling library stations in the central part of the country were present, but the meeting was quite successful, and proved again the hold upon the affections of the people which these libraries have gained. Among the subjects presented were the best literature for children's

reading, the value of books on games, sports, etc., the usefulness of travelling pictures, and means of administration of travelling libraries. Senator Stout, F. A. Hutchins, Miss Stella Lucas, Prof. F. W. Kendall, and Mrs. J. E. Hoyt were among the speakers.

*Minnesota lib. commission bill.* The library commission bill which it was thought had been killed by the legislature on Feb. 18 (*see* L. J., March, p. 157) came to life again on March 15, when it was taken up for reconsideration by the house, and after an animated debate was recommended to pass. A number of representatives who had voted against the bill stated that they were now in sympathy with its purpose, though Ignatius Donnelly still remained a strong opponent. A motion to indefinitely postpone it was defeated by a vote of 25 to 44. The final disposal of the bill came up on the following day, and unfortunately it failed of passage by just two votes. The vote stood 56 ayes to 49 noes, and the defeat is charged rather to absentees than to those who voted against it. The result, after the amount of hard and unremitting work that has been given to the bill by members of the state library association and others interested, is much to be regretted.

*Missouri, lib. legislation in.* On March 18 Gov. Stephens signed the bill introduced by Senator Mott, authorizing cities, towns, and villages to levy a tax for the erection of library buildings. The law provides that 100 taxpaying voters can petition for an increased tax levy not to exceed one and one-half mills on the dollar annually to erect a public library building. The matter must then be submitted to vote at the next regular municipal election, and two-thirds majority will carry the proposition; the law applies to all cities of over 10,000 people, and was introduced especially in the interests of the St. Louis Public Library.

*New Bedford (Mass.) P. L.* On March 9 Librarian Pennock gave an hour's instruction to the physiography class of the high school on "How to use the public library." The talk was given at the request of the teacher of the class.

*New Hampshire State L., Concord.* (Biennial rpt. — Oct. 1, '94 – May 31, '96.) "The new books coming into the library have naturally increased during the past two years, until at the present time they average nearly 500 v. per month. Of these accessions, almost two-thirds come by way of gift. A little less than one-fifth of them are law-books, and the balance are of a miscellaneous nature."

The reports of the trustees and of Librarian Chase are extremely interesting and suggestive of what may be done in developing a state library into an educational force in the state. The chief event of the period was the establishment of the library in its fine new building in January, 1895, and the additional space and facilities thus afforded have largely helped in the development of its work. In Mr. Chase's brief record of the progress of the two years, the account of the system of loaning books from the miscellaneous collection to persons throughout the state is especially interesting. Appended to the report is a reprint of Mr. G. M. Jones's paper on "Libraries of local history."

*New Orleans, La. Fisk F. and P. L.* On March 23 a conference was held at the library between the library authorities, the governor, and the secretary of state, regarding the transfer to the public library of the miscellaneous books contained in the state and law libraries, and it was decided that the books should be put in charge of the public library until definite action on the matter can be had from the legislature. The transfer will be made as soon as shelving is provided. The circulating department of the library was opened on March 17, and 113 cards were issued within the first three days.

*Northampton, Mass. Forbes L.* (Year ending Nov. 1, '96.) Added 13,174, of which 12,803 were purchased at a cost of $14,834.63, or $1.16 per v.; total 44,201. Issued, home use 40,675 (Eng. fict. .602 %); lib. use ("reserved" books only) 7729. No account is kept of general reference use or of v. consulted by persons admitted to shelves. New registration 1206; total registration 2518.

An interesting and suggestive report, from which quotation within necessary limits is difficult; it should be read as a whole by all librarians. The library has now passed from the period of organization into that of administration along lines already laid out. The circulation for the year Mr. Cutter makes the subject of an interesting and novel comparative analysis. "Northampton," he says, "is the only city, as far as I know, that owns two entirely independent free public libraries. This ought to be taken into account in estimating their work. The circulation of the library having the least circulation is large, nearly up to the average; the circulation of the two combined is unusual. From the reports of 18 Massachusetts towns and cities with populations ranging from 3239 to 98,767, and circulations from 8954 to 263,945, I find that the annual issue of books varies from one-half v. (.54) per year for each inhabitant to six (5.95), the average being 2.95. In Northampton the Forbes Library alone issues 2.72, and the public libraries together 6.22. A comparison with 20 libraries outside of the state gives even more remarkable results. In eight cities in 18 states, with populations ranging from 44,126 to 434,439, and circulations from 70,429 to 587,799, the issue runs from .58 to 2.87, the average being 1.56, about one-quarter of ours. Judging by the number of books borrowed, then, Northampton may be proud of its record as a reading city."

The cataloging work of the library is much hampered by the lack of sufficient force, and the library staff, in default of a complete catalog, must to a considerable extent "per-

sonally conduct" the public — a necessity that has its advantages as well as its difficulties. Of the 13,000 accessions of 1896 but 4000 have been cataloged, nor will it be possible to catch up on that work until one or more persons are added to the present force. There are now five regular and four pupil-assistants on the library staff, the latter giving their services for the sake of the training received; but a larger force is imperatively needed to develop fully the possibilities of the library.

Perhaps the most striking feature in the administration of the library is the lavish supply of extra books that may be drawn by borrowers. Besides the issue of fiction and non-fiction "pockets" (not cards, for the Browne charging system is employed), readers may have six special pockets classified as follows: French, German, long (*i.e.*, on which a book may be kept out over two weeks), magazine, vacation, and "extra." The latter class may be used only for study purposes and comprises in itself a set of six pockets. During the year 1376 of these special pockets have been issued.

Mr. Cutter describes the photographic and other art exhibitions that have been held at the library and have proved most successful; also the beginning of a music collection, which, if well received, will probably be developed and extended. A list of the more notable art books purchased in 1896 is appended to the report.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* (51st rpt. — year ending Nov. 15, '96.) This is the first report of the board of library commissioners, and is also the first statement of the work planned and accomplished since the organization of the library under the law of 1896. The cleaning of the books and shelving, the rearrangement and numbering of the government publications, and the classification of the general library were among the first tasks undertaken and carried through successfully.

"By actual count of the volumes in the library, there has been found a total of 47,115," not including duplicate volumes accessioned and pamphlets unbound. No record of any previous count or inventory has been found by the commissioners, and the accession catalog of the library shows a total of 70,122 books and pamphlets. The discrepancy between the number in the accession list and the number actually on the shelves "may be accounted for in pamphlets numbered, and books lost, missing, or worn out, of which no account has been made." The library, at present, is deficient in many lines, notably in American history and political and social science, and the commissioners intend "to complete the work already begun, to add, as appropriations will admit, to the departments of history and science, to increase the number of exchanges, to aid, within the limits of the law, other libraries throughout Ohio, and gradually to extend the privileges of the state library to the end that it may be in fact as well as in name a state institution." The librarian's report is interesting, summarizing the various new departures in the library administration of the past year. Books may be drawn from the state library by any citizen of the state, under simple regulation, and the use of this privilege is increasing; travelling libraries are also provided for, and a few have already been sent out, though lack of adequate appropriation limits work in this wide field.

Mr. Galbreath urges the need of meeting the increased demand for Ohio state publications, by legal provision for their proper distribution — which, curiously enough, seems never to have been authorized by law. A check list of state publications is already in preparation under the direction of Mr. Hayes, and it is hoped that a complete catalog of the library may soon be undertaken. The appendixes to the report include a list of accessions for the year, a list of the bound v. of newspapers in the library, the state library laws, a collection of "interesting opinions in regard to libraries and library work," and the address on "A village library successfully managed," made at the Cleveland conference of the A. L. A. by James R. Garfield.

*Parkersburg (W. Va.) City P. L.* On March 9 the city council decided that the library should be permitted to occupy a room in the new city hall, should be furnished gratis with light, heat, and janitor service, and should be allowed an appropriation of $500 yearly when free public use of books is permitted by the association.

*Philadelphia F. L.* (1st rpt.) In this report, which is dated October, 1896, but was published in March, '97, Mr. Thomson gives in lucid and concise form the history of the free library movement in Philadelphia, beginning with the first state legislation on the subject in 1887. The report is not statistical, but is a descriptive presentment of what is probably the most remarkable instance of library development on record. The work done in Philadelphia, indeed, is astonishing, not only for the marvellous rapidity of its growth, but for the various features that have been an integral part of it from the beginning — notably the system of free access, adopted in its entirety, and the use of a large number of branch libraries. Nor did the Philadelphia library system start work as a compact whole, under the most favorable auspices; it was not until January, 1896, that the ordinance went into effect whereby the libraries maintained by the board of education and that established, as the Free Library of Philadelphia, under the Pepper bequest, were consolidated as a single organized, yet elastic, institution. When one reflects that the first free library established by the board of education, and now known as the Wagner Institute branch, was opened to the public in October, 1892, and that by October, 1896, 2,916,852 v. had been circulated for home reading through nine libraries, one realizes in part the full scope of what has been accomplished. During the year ending September 30, 1896, 1,293,004 v. have been issued for home use. The library system now comprises the central library and

eight branches, of which six were established before the consolidation by the board of education. There is also in operation a system of city travelling libraries, which are sent, on application, to distant sections of the city, to the fire departments and the telegraph offices, and which bring the library to many who would never otherwise come within its influence. The work of which the outlines are here but touched upon has been accomplished only by persistent devotion and enthusiasm; it has not been lavishly aided by money nor has it been widely exploited. Yet its resources have grown with its needs. The treasurer's report from January, 1896 (when the consolidation went into effect), to Sept. 30 of the same year, shows receipts of $76,407.35, and expenses of $70,023.46, of which $25,428.07 were spent for books; and by the ordinance of July 16, 1896, the city is authorized to borrow $1,000,000 for a library site and building. With this prospect before it, and the record of what has already been done behind it, he would be a bold prophet who ventured to limit the future possibilities of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mr. Thomson's report should go on record as one of the most encouraging and inspiring library documents of recent years.

*Plainfield* (*N. J.*) *P. L.* The directors have asked the city council for an appropriation of $3500 for the maintenance of the library during 1897. They have also presented a petition requesting that the sum of $14,000 be granted for the erection of a fire-proof addition to the library building in which to house the scientific library bequeathed by the late George H. Babcock, and which by the terms of the bequest is to be kept separate from the library proper.

*St. Louis* (*Mo.*) *P. L.* The passage on March 18 of the bill authorizing a tax levy for the erection of a public library building in cities of over 10,000 inhabitants, on a two-thirds majority vote at city elections, was the signal for a vigorous and effective campaign on the part of the library authorities to obtain a favorable vote on the matter at the city election on April 6. Nothing was left undone in the way of notices, circulars, and newspaper notes to call the attention of people to the matter and to secure a representative vote. Unfortunately, the time and hard work devoted to urging the importance of the measure has proved ineffective. The total vote cast on the proposition was 54,956 for, and 19,535 against, which, while more than two-thirds of the entire vote on the matter was considerably less than two-thirds of the total vote cast for mayor, which was over 90,000, and though it was at first thought that the majority might be construed to cover only those voting on the specific measure, it was finally decided on April 8 that there was no question of the defeat of the library levy.

*Somerville* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* (24th rpt., 1896.) Added 5016; total 33,826. Issued, home use 148,193, of which 14,644 were delivered through the two agencies and 8939 to the grammar schools. This circulation is a gain of 40% over any preceding year. Receipts $11,016.96; expenses $11,006.75.

Mr. Hayes emphasizes the need of a card catalog, and the desirability of extending reference work as far as practicable, as also of strengthening the co-operation between the library and schools.

"In several sections of the city a neatly-framed and attractive notice, bearing a good picture of this library building, headed: 'The Public Library is the People's University,' has been set in a conspicuous place, calling attention to the library and giving the hours it is open to the public. A finding list in many instances is kept near the notice and is open for consultation at any time."

*Southport, Ct. Pequot L.* A description of the Pequot Library building, with illustrations and plans, is given in the *Scientific American, Building edition*, for April, p. 57–58.

*Tennessee, lib. legislation in.* On March 26 the house bill authorizing towns or cities of less than 10,000 population to levy a tax for the establishment and maintenance of public libraries came up for a third reading in the senate, recommended for passage, with a committee amendment making the provisions of the bill applicable to cities of 20,000 or less. The amendment was adopted, as was another amendment providing for the establishment of school libraries, and the bill passed.

*University of Colorado L., Boulder.* (*In* Univ. catalog, 1896–97.) "The librarian offers all new students of every department instruction in the use of the library, which enriches and facilitates the mastery of the other regular work of the curriculum. He gives familiar talks and practical drill under personal supervision, in the details of the use and purpose of classification, shelving, catalogs, indices, manuals, books of reference, and bibliography."

*Watertown* (*Mass.*) *F. P. L.* (29th rpt., 1896.) Added 464; total 23,816. Issued, home use 33,643; lib. use 5516. New registration 269; total registration 7310. Receipts $3824.29; expenses $3804.67.

The reading-room use has exceeded that of any previous year, and Mr. Whitney suggests that several more cases for books and periodicals be added to its equipment. During the year a complete fiction list was published, and its preparation was made the occasion for a much-needed rearrangement of the books in this department. The publication of a complete catalog of all classes in the library is much needed, and if the use made of the fiction list is sufficiently encouraging such a work may be undertaken. The need of a children's room, a room for historical collections, and a meeting-room for the trustees is presented, and space is given to a discussion of the best means of meeting the pressing need of more shelf room, of which the most satisfactory would be the installation of a two-story iron stack. Appended to the report is a finding list of the year's accessions.

*Webster City, Ia.* At the city election held on March 1 the proposition to levy a tax to establish a public library, in accordance with the bequest of the late Kendall Young, was defeated. This bequest was made public in July, 1896, at the time of Mr. Young's death (*see* L. J., Aug., '96, p. 384). By the terms of the will $25,000 was left for a permanent home for the library, $10,000 was set aside for the purchase of books, and the income of an estate of $200,000 was to be devoted to the maintenance of the library; a board of five life trustees was also appointed. The only condition was that the city should not come into possession of the fund until the death of Mrs. Young; but it was thought that the citizens would accept the provisions of the state library law and tax themselves to establish a library, as a nucleus to which the Young bequest could later be added, the trustees agreeing to eventually return to the city the money expended in such establishment. The result of the election seems to show, however, that the library will not become an established fact for some years to come.

*FOREIGN.*

*London.* H. Sotheran & Co. have put upon the market the fine collection of illuminated manuscripts and early printed books gathered by the late William Morris, in connection with his work at the Kelmscott Press. It includes about 110 manuscripts, all, save two or three, being in vellum, and about 800 printed books, most of them rare early works with wood-cuts. Many of the examples bear Morris's dated autograph and notes, and the collection is a specially comprehensive one, as it was chiefly intended to illustrate as widely as possible the original springs of typography, and includes specimens from many presses whose productions are even rarer than those of the more well-known ones. A full ms. catalog, made under Mr. Morris's direction, accompanies the library. This firm is also the agent for the sale of the famous Ashburnham ms. and the Ashburnham library, which it is desired to dispose of *en bloc* if possible to one of the large libraries or educational institutions.

*Marburg* (*Germany*). *Univ. L.* ZEDLER, Gottfried. Geschichte der Universitätsbibliothek zu Marburg, von 1527–1887. Marburg, N. G. Elwert'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1896. 166 + 2 p. O.

Dr. Zedler is the librarian of the Royal Library of Wiesbaden. His monograph is an interesting study, typical of the history of a German university library from its first beginning; it is illustrated with two views and a diagram of the University of Marburg.

*P. is. Bibliothèque Nationale.* The library is put to it to find places for its new books; but the Chambers have refused to vote for enlargement of the building, money which in their opinion would be more advantageously spent on part of a battle-ship to attack the commerce of perfidious Albion. M. Pairault in *Le Bric-à-brac* proposes that the library raise the necessary money and for the present gain room by selling its triplicates or even its duplicates, or even second and third and other editions in which no change is made from the first.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Athens, Ga.* On March 12 the announcement was made that Jesse Spalding, of Chicago, had given $15,000 to Athens for the establishment of a public library and museum in that town. The corner-stone of the building will be laid August 11, and the matter is in charge of the local historical society.

## Librarians.

CLARKE, Miss Elizabeth P., has completed her reorganization of the Matson Library, Princeton, Ill., and will take charge on May 1 of a new library to be opened in Racine, Wis.

DAVIDSON, H: E., of the Library Bureau, returned from London on April 3 to arrange the details of the European post-conference trip of the A. L. A.

ELMENDORF, Mr. and Mrs. H: L., arrived in New York from London on March 18. Mr. Elmendorf is now actively engaged in arranging for the European post-conference trip of the A. L. A.

HENRY, Prof. W. E., was elected state librarian of Indiana by the state board of education on March 25. He will succeed Mrs. Emma L. Davidson, who has held the office for two years.

JEFFERSON, T: W., of Broadkiln hundred, Sussex county, Del., was on April 7 appointed state librarian of Delaware by Governor Tunnell, succeeding Peter C. Gruwell, who has held the office for six years. Mr. Jefferson's term is for four years; he has been a schoolteacher in Sussex county for several years.

JONES-SANBORN. The engagement is announced of Gardner M. Jones, of the Salem (Mass.) Public Library, and Miss Kate E. Sanborn, of the Manchester (N. H.) Public Library.

SPERRY, S. Harrison, was on March 25 elected librarian of the Iowa City (Ia.) Public Library.

THURSTON, Miss Mary D., was on March 8 elected librarian of the Leicester (Mass.) Public Library.

TOBITT, Miss Edith, of the Pratt Institute Library School, has been appointed to a position on the staff of that library. Miss Tobitt was assistant at the Omaha (Neb.) Public Library at the time of her entrance to the library school.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE L., *Brunswick, Me.* Bibliographical contributions, no. 6, March, 1897. One hundred books of 1896. 16 p. O.

The sixth of the series of annual selected lists of books published in the United States, and fully up to the admirable standard of its predecessors. The list is a capital one, well rounded, and showing excellent judgment; it should be of wide usefulness to librarians. But 15 novels and children's books are included, because "along these lines the patrons of public libraries rarely fail to make known their wishes," while the chief aim of the compiler is to suggest representative books on subjects of permanent and general interest. As usual, references to leading critical reviews are appended to each entry. This list is, as a whole, the best limited selection of the literature of 1896 that we have seen.

CINCINNATI (*O.*) P. L. Bulletin of books in the various departments of literature and science added during the year 1896. Cincinnati, 1897. 108 p. l. O.

CLASSIFICATION. The February number of *The Library* may be called a "Classification and cataloging" number, so considerable is the space devoted to these subjects. In it L. Stanley Jast discusses "The class list"; the same writer, with Mr. Brown, of the Clerkenwell Library, describes "The compilation of class lists"; and "Curiosities of cataloging" are presented by B. B. Woodward and C. Davies Sherborn. The trilogy is a suggestive one, and will repay careful reading. The remarkable increase in class lists of recent years, the desirability of brief annotation, and the various ways in which information not given in the title of a book may be compactly presented to the users of the list, are among the chief points touched upon.

MILWAUKEE (*Wis.*) P. L. Quarterly index of additions, Oct.–Dec., 1896. 84 p. O. 15 c.

Contains a list of the books in the library of Mr. Hans Crocker.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for March contains in addition to the report for February and the monthly list of principal purchases and gifts, a reprint of "Yate's account of a voyage to Virginia in 1619," lists of "periodicals relating to mathematics in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library," of documents, portraits, etc., illustrating the Albany Congress of 1754, from the Emmet collection, and of "Gifts of American statute laws and legislative journals in 1895 and 1896."

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* contains in its March issue no. 4 of the reading lists in English history, covering the period from 1399 to 1485.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for March contains reference list no. 43, an excellent and informing bibliography of "Crete and modern Greece." In special catalog no. 12 are listed the additions to the "School duplicate collection," in order of grades.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for March has special reading lists on Florence, Dante, Crete and Modern Greece.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS have put into operation a new plan regarding the sale of the catalogs of their "model libraries." They now offer these catalogs separately to libraries possessing the books therein listed, selling them in lots of 100 and over, specially printed with the name, address, rules, regulations, etc., of the library. The illustrations and annotations of the catalogs make them useful and attractive, and the books included in them are owned by most public libraries.

UNITED STATES, *Dept. of Agriculture.* Library bulletin, February, 1897: accessions to the department library, October–December, 1896. 16 p. l. O.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* concludes in the March number the special list of books on Germany, begun in the February issue.

WATERTOWN (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Catalogue of English prose fiction. Watertown, published by the trustees, 1897. 18 p. D.

An attractive little finding list, similar in form and typography to the fiction list of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, and complete up to Feb. 15, 1897. An attempt is made at the descriptive annotation of "certain historical novels," but it is an inadequate one, and only strengthens the conviction that such annotation had best be left undone if it is impracticable to do it thoroughly. The Cutter-Sanborn call numbers are used.

*FULL NAMES.*

Henderson, Ernest Flogg, Ph.D., author of "A history of Germany in the Middle Ages." 1 vol. O. London, 1894. W: J. J.

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Burks, Martin Parks (Notes on the property rights of married women in Virginia);

Clark, W: Lawrence (Handbook of the law of private corporations);

Davis, Walter Alonzo (Some early records of the town of Lunenburg);

Deering, James H: (Digest of the reports of the supreme court of California);

Ewell, Marshall Davis, *and* La Mure, James W: (A manual of the law of domestic relations);

Furman, Howard Van Fleet (A manual of practical assaying);

Gill, A: Herman (Gas and fuel analysis for engineers).

## Bibliography.

CHILD-STUDY. Stowell, Agnes. Literature of child-study. (*In Journal of Education*, March 18, 1897. Continued from F. 25.) 1 col.

COMPRESSED air illness. Snell, E. Hugh. Compressed air illness, or so-called caisson disease. Lond., H. K. Lewis, '96. 8+251 p. il.
Incl. comprehensive bibliography; reviewed in *Nature*, Mr. 4, '97.

FOODS. Blyth, Alex. Wynter. Foods: their composition and analysis. New 4th ed., rev. and enl. N. Y., Van Nostrand, 1896. 735 p. il. 8°. $7.50.
Contains a series of bibliographies, noted in *Nation*, Mr. 25.

HOWELLS, W: D. The *Bookbuyer* for March contains Part 1 of "A bibliography of the first editions of the writings of W. D. Howells," by Albert Lee. It is prefaced by a fac-simile of the cover of a rare copy of "Niagara revisited." Part 2, in the April no., includes books edited by Mr. Howells or containing articles by him. In all 81 titles are listed, of which 20 are in Part 2.

MALACOLOGY. Of the fifth volume of the *Journal of Malacology* "a valuable feature is a descriptive bibliography of current malacological literature, compiled by Mr. E. R. Sykes and Mr. S. Pace."—*Nature*, F. 25, '97.

MEIER, P. GABRIEL. Heinrich von Liegerz, bibliothekar von Einsiedeln im 14. Jahrhundert. Leipzig, Otto Harrassowitz, 1896. 2 + 68 p. 2 pl. 8° (17. Beiheft zum *Centrabl. f. Bibliothekswesen*,) pap., 3 m.
It is supposed that Liegerz was born in Berne, Switzerland, in 1303. The first positive knowledge of him is his admission, in 1324, to the cloister at Einsiedeln, where he was appointed *custos* and librarian. In 1332 and in 1340 he appears as a witness to certain documents, and in 1360 his death is recorded. He aided considerably in making additions to the library. According to his lights he annotated copiously the books and manuscripts in the library, and was particularly active in preserving and binding the rare material collected in the library. He also added to the literature of his time by writing several historical accounts. As a study of the life and work of a librarian of 500 years ago, Mr. Meier's pamphlet is exceedingly interesting and instructive.

MOHAMMEDANISM. Arnold, T. W. The preaching of Islam: a history of the propagation of the Muslim faith. Lond., Constable, 1896. 406 p. 8°. 12 *s*.
The 11-p. list of authorities forms a very considerable bibliography of the religion founded by Mohammed.

PRAYER-BOOKS. Wright, John, D.D. Early prayer-books of America: being a descriptive account of prayer-books published in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. St. Paul, Minn. Privately printed, 1896. 15+1-492 p. 8°.
There are chapters on the prayer-books of the various denominations, from Roman Catholic to Unitarian. Pages 430 to 480 contain lists of the prayer-books published from 1561, with approximate prices. Many fac-simile title-pages of early prayer-books are given.

PRINTS. Wedmore, Frederick. Fine prints. Lond., Redway, 1897. (The collector series.)
Contains a five-page bibliography.

*INDEXES.*

THE MAGAZINE AND THE DRAMA: an index; compiled by James Harry Pence, a pamphlet of 190 pages issued in a limited edition by the Dunlap Society, is a most useful volume of reference for the subject treated. From Poole and Fletcher a large amount of material has been drawn, which has been reinforced by the the compiler's own work, and thus an author and subject key has been supplied to more than 170 periodicals. Mr. Pence has done his work well, and will, it is hoped, find many imitators in other ranges of literature. It is regrettable that so valuable a little manual should be limited in possession to the members of the club, as it ought to be in all public libraries. — *Nation*, Mr. 27.

CORRECTION. Annual literary index, 1896, p. 227, under "Montana": "Civics of Montana" is published by B. E. Calkins, and the bibliography covers eight and a half pages.

## Humors and Blunders.

OVERHEARD IN THE STREET. — First small boy: "D'you get books from the Public Library?"
Second s. b.: "Yes."
First s. b.: "How long can you keep 'em?"
Second s. b.: "Well, if it's a bully book you want to keep, you can't have it but a week; but if it's stupid old rot you don't want, you can keep it two weeks."

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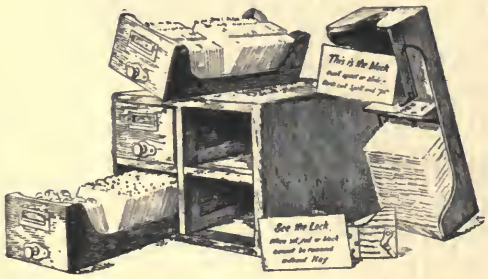


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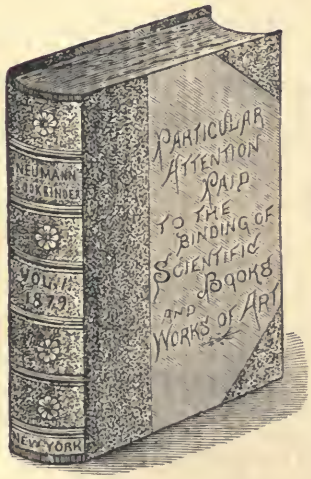


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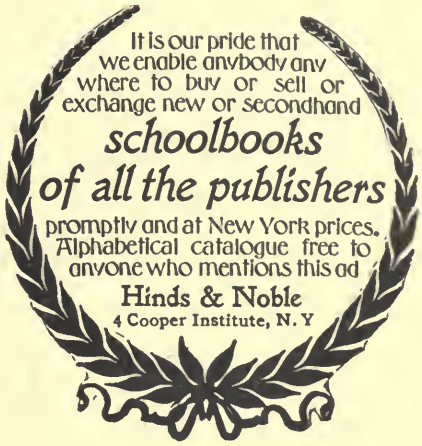


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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

VOL. 22. NO. 5.

MAY, 1897.

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sult. Nevertheless the library people had no sooner left the place than action was taken on the lines suggested in the talk, and the associations have the satisfaction of knowing that as a direct result of their joint meeting Atlantic City has taken steps preliminary to bringing itself under the library law of New Jersey and providing for a free public library by taxation. This is the best of evidence of what library organizations can do, not only for the library profession but for the reading public.

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THE library profession has developed few men more scholarly than Mr. J. N. Larned, whose recent papers at library meetings have attracted very wide attention for their out-reach and brilliancy. This is a new reputation added to that which Mr. Larned has previously earned as a capable library administrator, and the news that he has resigned from the superintendence of the Buffalo Library, under its new conditions, has been received with general and deep regret. Mr. Larned was marked by public opinion and by the press of Buffalo as the one and only possible candidate for the headship of the new library, into which the old library has been transformed, and the unanimity of this selection was testimony to Mr. Larned's effectiveness which rejoiced the hearts of librarians everywhere. It showed that good work was worth doing, both for itself and for the appreciation that comes of it. Mr. Larned's retirement may, perhaps, have the advantage of bringing to literary work a brilliant and worthy accession, but we trust nevertheless that it is not his intention to give up library work altogether.

---

THE use of the library method for disseminating political information is thoroughly to be commended. Of course, much of such material is partisan and much of it is untrustworthy, but, particularly in the political field, authorities will differ widely as to these very qualities of fairness and accuracy. The librarian, whatever his political or economic beliefs, should be willing to let both sides be heard and be indeed desirous that the people should seek to read both sides. The latest development in this direction is a plan of ex-Governor Altgeld, in Illinois, for the establishment in each precinct of the state of an "economic circulating library." 20 books are to be furnished for $2, with the intention that the library should be kept in the hands of a Democratic volunteer, who will act as librarian and recorder and see that the books are circulated. The plan is a good one, and ought to have the co-operation of librarians, whether they agree or disagree with the views held by the promoters of this literature. Indeed, librarians should seek to put these very libraries on their shelves, and the people on the other side in politics should take the hint and make sure in their turn that their own side is heard.

## Communications.

### *A CARD FROM MR. PUTNAM TO SECRETARIES OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.*

WITH reference to a paper which I have been asked to submit at the international conference, I have had occasion to call upon the secretaries of the various library clubs and associations for various information. Will you permit me through the columns of the LIBRARY JOURNAL to thank these officers for their prompt and considerate response to my inquiry. I have not been able to contrive individual acknowledgment in every case. HERBERT PUTNAM.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
BOSTON, MASS.

### *ARE BOOKS ON LOCAL INDUSTRIES UNNECESSARY IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES?*

THE first time one hears questioned a point in the religious creed to which he has been brought up, a shock is experienced. A like shock came to me the other day when one dogma preached by all librarians, in the JOURNAL, in the schools, and at conferences, was calmly set aside by a practical business man. After the first gasp, however, I wondered if the practical man was not right, as against the librarians. I refer to the dictum: Buy largely in the line of books on the industries of the community in which your library is used. Now, it happens that two industries are prominent in our small city, and I proposed that the library buy certain recently-issued books on these two subjects. Whereupon the practical man on the committee responded: "What is the use? It would only be a waste of money. All establishments of any importance nowadays keep up libraries of their own, buying all books of value in their own specialty as fast as they appear." His argument further was, as I remember it, that to these "office libraries" the skilled workmen had access, while in the present extreme distribution of labor, the unskilled workman would take not the slightest interest in such books if on the shelves of the public library, that they would therefore be so much dead stock, while, like scientific books, they would soon be "out of date" and unsalable.

I confess that this argument, though it contravened the good orthodox teaching I had received, seemed cogent. Have any two or three librarians statistics which will tend to the rehabilitation of this article of the librarian's creed? A. B. J.

## DEVELOPING A TASTE FOR GOOD LITERATURE.*

By W. E. Foster, *Librarian Providence (R. I.) Public Library.*

The profession of teaching, I am told, has its joys of retrospection, as well as those of present experience. Among the former there can be few which surpass in depth and intensity those instances of character-building which the teacher has seen growing out of the formative methods of his own school. In much the same spirit as that in which the Roman mother could regard her sons as her "jewels" pre-eminently, the teacher's mind reverts to those men and women who may justly be regarded as instances of conspicuous success in after life, and who are always followed by him with fondest interest, as having been his former pupils.

Yet, when we speak of success, we need to discriminate. In any rational view of education one is forced to take into account that which develops the man as a whole, as distinguished from a one-sided or partial development. Something certainly is lacking in our sense of satisfaction if, while the former pupil in question is indeed a mathematical prodigy, he is wholly careless of the finer courtesies of life. In the same manner, there is keen disappointment if, while he wins for himself, by his intellectual acumen, the highest political positions, he is seen to have no regard for moral considerations. Still further, we are justly unsatisfied if, while his business ability is yielding him most lavish financial returns, he is left with neither perceptions nor capabilities to be aroused by anything beyond a daily newpaper. For such a man Shakespeare, and Milton, and Mendelssohn, and Raphael, and Michael Angelo have produced their harmonies of music, of color, of poetry, or of architecture in vain. For him the wildflower opens, the thrush sings, the clouds go through their entrancing transformations — all in vain.

But we may go further than this. Man is, or should be, a reasoning animal. One's sense of the fitness of things justly revolts at seeing a man who has passed out from the influences of our schools, and whose mind is flabby — all incapable of independent thinking. Such a mind does not react on what is put into it; and when we have said this, we have touched upon what is really the fundamental defect in mental growth.

There are, however, men and women who have grown up in our schools, of whom the above unpromising conditions are not true — who are not intellectually atrophied, or morally blind in one eye, or mentally deaf in one ear. It would be most instructive, would it not, to question them in regard to the influences which had shaped them. Their answers would be various, and yet they would all possess a certain unmistakable family resemblance. It is not from Richter alone that one learns to reason that a man is sometimes seen to be worthy of our confidence and veneration when we can say of him "he loves God and little children." The longer that we ourselves live, the harder we find it, no doubt, to see how any man's sensibilities can remain unresponsive to the appeal of natural scenery, to the appeal of the infinitely fascinating life of childhood, or to the equally strong appeal of the world of literature. Now all of the instances, such as were just referred to above, may really be reduced to two types. The first type is that of the discipline derived from contact with life itself. The second is that of the discipline which is derived from such literature as is surcharged with life. It is not the fortune of every child to have a father in the army, or to be drawn actively into philanthropic work. Yet there are few children to whom the vital force in literature does not make direct appeal, wrapped up in such passages, or entire poems, as Holmes's "Old Ironsides," Longfellow's "Paul Revere's ride"; Thomas Buchanan Read's "Sheridan's ride"; or, at a later period, perhaps, in Wordsworth's "Ode to duty," in Gray's "Elegy written in a country churchyard," and in portions of Tennyson's "In memoriam."

But literature is voluminous — particularly when its masterpieces are to be made accessible as wholes rather than in scraps or fragments — and it becomes an important question where it shall best be sought. Partly, it is true, in the school libraries accessible in the school-buildings; partly also in the private libraries in the homes of the children, or of a part of them; partly also, and to a greater extent, in the public libraries. It is a practical inquiry, how far the two former sources can be depended on. Take, for instance, the authors last mentioned above — Holmes, Longfellow, Read, Words-

* Read before the Grammar School Section of the R. I. Institute of Instruction, at Providence, Oct. 30, 1896.

worth, Gray, and Tennyson. Would the works of all of these authors be accessible in the homes of all of your pupils, or even in one-tenth of them? Nothing, certainly, would come nearer the ideal condition of things than to have the pupil thus referred to those treasures on the shelves of his father's library, but where this is not possible, a public library is a clear necessity.

The school library, again, would obviously be a place whose appropriateness as a depository of the widest range of literature would be nothing short of ideal, if only the limitations of time and space did not interpose. But the very fact that your building is a "school-building" makes it impossible to give up more than a small fraction of the entire space to library purposes, which are here only incidental. Moreover, the school has its definite and prescribed curriculum, which makes it impossible to give up to this comprehensive field of literature more than a comparatively small fraction of the entire time. Here again the footing of literature is incidental only, rather than fundamental; and there is still need of the existence and co-operation of the public library.

And in saying this, let me emphasize the word co-operation. The public library, in its attitude toward this question of the pupil's contact with literature, takes the school and the teachers into account at every step, rejoicing that the pupils are to use these resources under the direction of advisers who are so ideally equipped for their work as the teachers in the schools. The public school, in its turn, may feel the satisfaction of being able to round out its more limited and fragmentary collections with the wider resources of the public library.

Whether we regard this contact with literature on the part of the pupil as a source of intellectual growth and improvement, or as a source of intellectual enjoyment, both of them are legitimate ends to keep in view; but there are certain aspects of the matter which deserve exceptionally careful attention. It is possible that some of these, when not seen in their true relations, might present themselves as difficulties or as obstacles; but you will, I trust, agree with me that they are more properly to be conceived of as fundamental distinctions, the observance of which will materially increase, indeed, rather than diminish, the effectiveness of all co-operative measures. If, therefore, we begin with a consideration of the subject on the side of intellectual improvement, we are to notice, in the first place, that the public library —any public library—is not a collection of books for school-children alone. The very fact, indeed, that it is a "public" library makes it impossible that it should be a place for any one class of readers alone, whether pupils, mechanicians, philologists, or engineers. The resulting condition is that discrimination and alertness are necessary, in profiting from the library's resources; and this is to be welcomed rather than deplored.

I ask your attention, however, to a second observation, growing naturally out of the first. From what has just been said, it follows that intelligent guidance is peculiarly needful in connection with the young reader's use of the library, as distinguished from that of the average adult reader. But here again we have a condition which is to be welcomed. Even if the collection of books which is placed before the child represented nothing but the best in literature, and, indeed, the most vital in literature, consider what an added benefit comes to him, in being introduced to a book through this guidance of an interested friend. As a result, it is not merely, as John Milton has so impressively named it, "the precious life-blood of a master spirit," in the shape of a book, coming in contact with this young life, "but it is this contact brought about through the intervention of a human life and (of) human interest." It is "literature, plus life." This intervening human life may be that of a teacher, a parent, a librarian, or other friend of the child; and such opportunities are within the reach of nearly every teacher.

I have mentioned intelligent guidance; and let me emphasize the word "intelligent"; for few things would be less difficult than to supply this guidance unwisely and unnecessarily. The true position, for the most part, to take, both in library work and outside, is to remain in the background, carefully observant, indeed, of the unfolding mind of the child, but leaving the pupil to learn how to help himself, and, in particular, "interfering" only when it becomes evident that he needs the help, and, of course, when it is a question of protecting him from the tendency to acquire a taste for bad books. It is at this point that the orbit of our subject of English literature touches that of English composition; and, in order more definitely to appreciate the direction in which the mind of the child is frequently observed to be working, let us imagine two specific instances—

one coming under the head of the "literature of knowledge," and the other coming under the head of the "literature of power" (to cite De Quincey's familiar distinction). As an instance of the former type, we will suppose that you send a boy to the public library for material in connection with a school essay which he is to present, on "Cyrus W. Field and the Atlantic cable." Here the pupil goes from one reference-book to another; and from one biography to another, until he has accumulated all that he needs. He really cannot invent any facts about Mr. Field; and his work, unless he be more than ordinarily fortunate, is chiefly to use those facts which the books supply. As a result, while his stock of knowledge is increased, and while there has been some incidental practice in the use of the English language, he has not been brought in contact with any special uplift. As an instance, however, of the other type, we will suppose that you send him to the library on this very different errand — namely, to write on "New England life in Whittier's poetry." Here his mission will be — or should be — not to apply for books *about* Whittier's poetry, but to ask for Whittier himself — his poetry, and his letters, and his essential life. This is the other type, and it is well named the "literature of power." For any pupil who recognizes his opportunity, an exercise like this is a means of expanding his mental tissues, of discovering the real contents of his own mind, and even of developing his mastery over his own will.

What, in brief, are the methods which lead in the direction of our own intellectual growth, within this field? There are three injunctions of especial importance — to all of us, indeed. (1) In one's reading in preparation for writing on any controverted subject, read all sides of the discussion, and not in a one-sided way. (2) In writing a criticism of an author, or his book, read what has been said of the work by other writers (if at all), after, rather than before putting your own ideas in form. (3) In choosing a subject (when the choice is left to you), give the preference to the type of subject which demands the maximum expenditure of thought on your part, instead of the minimum.

We here approach one of the most perplexing of all the problems connected with the training of pupils — the reluctance of the pupil to exercise his own powers of thought and expression. It is no part of my purpose to touch upon what may appropriately be called the school aspect of this question, as seen in the efforts made for years past to free the pupil from slavish dependence on text-books; to minimize the necessity for memorizing (in certain studies); and, in brief, to avoid educational ruts. Let me, however, point out the fact that it is an equally vital problem from the library's point of view, and that it is so regarded by librarians. In fact, could a teacher stand with me, by the side of his pupils as they approach the information-desk at the Public Library, with their various inquiries, he would be surprised to see in how many instances they are skilfully "switched off," and are led to take up a course which is far less "summary" and labor-saving than they had at first had in mind, and which is consequently more instructive and more certain to cause their own minds to react. The "steering" possibilities of this library officer are, I think, not generally appreciated.

Even in the comparatively less suggestive field of the "literature of knowledge," the pupil is here dissuaded from slavishly transferring the substance of a single cyclopædia article to his own pages, and is encouraged to make a comparison of different statements of the same thing. Moreover, in the work of thus consulting reference-books, the aim is, invariably, "to help the pupil to help himself." Few library experiences are more delightful than the opportunity of coming in contact with these young people who are learning their own mental powers, both in the use of the reference-books, outside the counter, and in calling for those on the shelves inside, and I will say, in passing, that at our library much disappointment would be saved to the pupils if different subjects could more frequently be given to different pupils instead of the same subject to nearly all the members of a large class, and also if notice could generally be sent to us in advance.

But in the field of the "literature of power," even more is it true that the effect of a stimulating writer like Burns or Whittier on the young mind is to fix the pupil's attention on his own feeling of interest in the author and of admiration for him; and he is consequently less likely to seek out what others — even though they be eminent writers — may have written about him.

It is an interesting fact that he is less likely to do this at the age when he comes under the care of the teacher in the grammar school, since the tendency to fall into this abuse is observed

in most libraries to be almost in exact proportion as the pupil or student advances in years, namely, only slightly in the grammar-school pupil, more so in the high-school pupil, and still more so in the undergraduate college student (though obviously not in the graduate student). There is an obvious connection between this abuse, or tendency to abuse, on the part of the pupils, and the phenomenon, already mentioned above, of "flabbiness" of mind in the adult citizen, of inability to think independently, and of one's mind holding "the last new idea loosely, until it is dislodged by the next comer"; and it is well worth all the pains which we may take to counteract it.

There are, let me say, three significant reasons why we may co-operate in efforts to counteract this harmful tendency, with peculiar hopefulness. The first of these is found in the plastic character of the child's mind at this period; the second in the fact that he comes in contact, at the school and at the library as well, with interested friends and guardians, keenly alive to the importance of the problem; and the third, in the almost incalculable potency inherent in the literature itself to awaken the child's mind, to unfold its powers, to develop its capabilities.

When, however, we pass to the consideration of the other side of the subject, namely, the child's contact with literature as a source of pleasure, we find here a far more potent reason than any which have been named above why our efforts to introduce the young reader to the best literature may justly be regarded as hopeful. The innate capacity, in the child's own mind, for an interested grasp upon a literary production, may be variously designated as his "love" for it or his "taste" for it, but in either case it is one of the strongest motives to be reckoned with. Indeed, one may say of the passion of love, as Emerson has said of the oriental divinity:

"They reckon ill who leave me out."

This, indeed, is true, whether the object of the passion be an inferior one or an exalted one. While, however, it is a matter for congratulation when a pupil loses his hold on bad literature, and develops a taste for good literature, it is to be remembered that not all good literature is of the same type.

There is another careful distinction to be made, and one which is sometimes a complicated rather than a simple problem. Since the mind of the child is necessarily a growing mind, one not unnaturally looks to see it appropriate one kind of nourishment at one stage of its development, and another and different kind at a later stage; and consequently we are familiar with the distinctions between what is called "juvenile fiction" and "adult fiction"; "science for the young" and "science" proper; "poetry for children" and "poetry" in general. This is probably right and proper, provided that we do not insist too rigidly on our labelling and pigeon-holing process, in every instance. It is true that there are certain English poets — as Robert Browning and Matthew Arnold — whose poetry we ourselves now approach with an insight into the deeper meaning of it which we probably should have missed in reading it as children, while we should not perhaps have missed any very large part of Longfellow or Whittier. Yet the work of a given poet will sometimes differ in a very marked manner in this respect (as Milton, for instance, a large part of whose poetry requires to be grown up to, while certain poems, as his "Hymn on the morning of Christ's Nativity," can be appreciated and enjoyed by any child); and, above all, it should be remembered that children differ from each other most strikingly in the capacity to apprehend the finer shades of meaning and expression; and few things are easier than to underrate the child's capabilities in this respect. Surely here is a field where the long-continued and persistent attention which has been paid to child-study during the past few years ought to serve us in choosing intelligently the reading of the individual child; and particularly in knowing how promptly a child may, in a given instance, be introduced to the authors themselves, as distinguished from selections or "school-editions," even though these school-editions be of the best type.

Both in the commonly received view of the distinction above mentioned, between children's reading and adult reading, and also in the arrangement of the curriculum, classical literature is usually assigned to a later period than that of the grammar school. Yet it is impossible to read certain English poets — notably Milton, Shelley, and Wordsworth — without encountering characters, scenes, and passages which have been brought into English literature from the classic writers. Instances also are very far from uncommon where the child's interest in the classic narrative, and its rare charm, have not only familiarized him with such books as Bulfinch's "Age of fable" and Mr. Gayley's more recent

work based on it, but also with such a collection of translations into English as Appleton's "Greek poets in English verse," or with some one of the English versions of the "Iliad" and "Odyssey," as a whole, in advance of the time when these are reached as a part of the school course. We are not unfamiliar with the common complaint of the wooden, unresponsive, unappreciative way in which the classical writers are too often rendered into English by pupils who approach them as a school task, and one can but be thankful for any such experience as that which has been cited above, preparing the pupil as it does, in advance, for an enthusiastic rather than perfunctory welcome of these authors, whose literary charm had already been tasted in the lower schools. For such a pupil, the reading of Ovid is largely a series of reminiscences of his earlier reading, in English literature, while his reading of Homer is even more emphatically an enhanced delight to him. It is a striking fact that much of the most successful work with children in developing their taste for standard English literature has had as its basis some volume of classic myths, or of Teutonic myths, or of fairy stories, or folk-lore. Students of folk-lore, as well as those engaged in child-study, will observe with unusual interest these significant tendencies.

There is, however, "noble prose" in our English literature as well as "noble poetry." It is true that poetry appeals more to what Mr. Larned has called "that inner sense of rhythmic motion" — innate, apparently in nearly all children — than prose can possibly do; and yet prose has more numerous avenues of making impressions on us than poetry. It is our daily medium for the use of our native tongue; and, consequently, the good and the bad in it are alike sure of impressing themselves on our attention. For this reason, indeed, a familiarity with the most perfect instances of prose is most desirable, as a touchstone to discover the instances of slipshod English, or of overloaded pedantry; of newspaper fine writing, or of spread-eagle oratory. Such a corrective will be found in that stately passage from John Milton's "Areopagitica," beginning: "Methinks I see, in my mind, a noble and puissant nation rousing herself like a strong man after sleep, and shaking her invincible locks," or in those almost incomparable passages in Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address and his Gettysburg address.

One more distinction remains to be made. In an earlier part of this paper the tendency of pupils to memorize was incidentally mentioned as one of the abuses to be guarded against. Yet while it is true that the memory is sometimes allowed to become a bad master, it is no less true that it may be made one of the best of servants. Whether it shall be the one or the other depends largely upon what the field of its operation is; and in this particular the field which is engaging our attention at present — that of literature — differs diametrically, as has been more than once pointed out, from such fields, for example, as history or natural science. In history, while you place a text-book in the pupil's hand, you recognize that, however skilfully the writer of the text-book may have labored, to make his own expression of the historic fact a broadly universal one, rather than one reflecting simply his individual point of view, and expressing his personal equation, yet the pupil by no means derives from it the benefit which he should, unless he breaks away, so far as possible, from storing his memory with the author's phraseology, and restates it in terms of his own. In natural science the same need is encountered, and in an intensified form. So rapid has been the progress — so "breathless," one might even say — in some such departments, as electricity, from year to year, that a student who should have laboriously stored his mind, in 1866, with the exact phraseology of a text-book of that period, would to-day possess, in the custody of his memory, instead of exact information, an uncommonly large store of misinformation. The reason why the opposite to this is true in literature is obvious. What the child here comes in contact with is not some one's ineffective expression of the piece of literature, at second hand, but the thing itself. So that when the child is committing to the precious keeping of his memory Shelley's "Ode to a sky-lark," or Bryant's "Thanatopsis," or Wordsworth's "Ode on intimations of immortality," he is storing it with treasure in which there is no alloy. To the pertinent question where, if this be so, any opportunity comes in for the pupil's mind to react, there is the obvious answer that while the verbal expression of the piece of literature in question is as immobile as a marble statue, the spiritual sense which therein makes its appeal to the pupil's mind is as mobile as a thing of life. In this word "appeal," indeed, presupposing as it does something in the pupil's mind on which to take hold, is the significant fact revealed.

Let us look, then, at some of the ways in which memory is a good servant to the pupil, in connection with these treasures of literature. First of all, such a literary masterpiece is many-sided. Were we to know it only from its aspect on the printed page, and then pass on to the next, our view of it would be as inadequate as the conception which a traveller may have gained of the shape and outline of the Mount Washington range who sees it from Fabyan's only, but does not correct this observation of his by afterwards viewing it successively from Jefferson, from Randolph, from Gorham, from the Glen, and from North Conway. Rather, let the inexhaustible perfection of thought, of poetic form, of feeling, of sympathy with life, embodied, for instance, in Milton's "Lycidas," have an opportunity to sink into one's mind, to filter, as we might say, into one's consciousness, not in one year only, but in a long succession of years, as one is walking, or travelling by train, or waking from sleep, or dressing, or waiting for a friend — the poem itself, as written on the tablets of the memory, all independently of the printed page. So only will one be able to estimate it even at its approximate value.

Again the mind comes to demand, under conditions like these, the entire poem, rather than a fragment — wholes, rather than extracts. We may recognize to the full the appeal which even a single line may make, to the mind which is sensitive to delicate impressions — the "flavor," so to speak, which is irresistible in such single and disconnected lines as these:

> "The uncertain glory of an April day."
> "Deep as first love, and wild with all regret."
> "Wisdom married to immortal verse."
> "The breezy call of incense-breathing morn."
> "Thy liquid notes that close the eye of day."

Yet these are but the charm to win us on to an acquaintance with the poem as a whole. Moreover, this perfection of felicity we find belongs to this piece of literature, as a whole, rather than to its isolated details. In music a really exquisite composition is one which does not leave us satisfied with a single hearing of it. We demand it again and again, as if to exhaust (if that were possible) all the secret of its inexhaustible charm.

These last-mentioned considerations may have a value to us as throwing some light on the specific measures whereby co-operation between the school and the library may be most effectively secured in this direction. You will, of course, find at the library the complete editions of such writers as have been mentioned in this paper — editions prepared with no thought of any special use by young readers. Within the past few years, however, so general has been the desire on the part of teachers to utilize every promising agency for developing the child's interest in the best literature, that a considerable number of annotated and specially prepared editions of these authors have been undertaken, with special reference to their use by young readers. Though issued by various publishers, they have, for the most part, had the good fortune to fall into the hands of men eminently fitted to give them the treatment which they require. For instance, the edition of Macaulay's "Lays of ancient Rome," which Mr. William J. Rolfe has given us, is a book whose attractiveness would win almost any school-boy. Mr. Edwin Ginn's edition of Scott's "Lady of the lake" also has much which appeals to the teacher as well as the pupil. There is, moreover, the great addition to these resources which the intelligent care of another Boston publisher, and that of the broad-minded teachers whom he has associated with him, have given us within the past few years, in the shape of the "Riverside literature series," the "Riverside school series," and the "Riverside library for young people"; and there are still others. Teachers have found it a decided boon to be able to have these and other books, suitable to use in connection with the reading of children, in large numbers, and for long periods; and it has been a great pleasure within the past few years for the managers of this library to accede to both these requests.

We all know how fruitful is that work within the field covered by this discussion, which is disinterested and unperfunctory; and how hopeless, I might add, is that which is merely perfunctory. We may occupy the greater part of our lives in the search for the best way to make the children whom we influence love good literature, but we shall find no way more effective than this — to love it ourselves. There is no more world-wide difference between bringing cold steel in contact with dry wood, and bringing a burning coal near the same dry wood, than there is between the attempt to have the child taught to love good literature by one who cares nothing for it himself, and having the same thing undertaken by a teacher whose heart is almost glowing with a passion for it. After an observation of the successive classes of children who for the past 18 years

and more have come up to use the public library under an intellectual impulse received from their teachers, permit me to bear my testimony to the noteworthy extent to which the personality of the teacher has impressed itself on this use of books by the pupils. At one school the principal is under the influence of a passion for nature, and nothing is more certain than the impress which the pupil's mind has received therefrom. At another school, the principal takes an exceptional interest in the ethical bearings of every subject; at another, in civil government; and in these and all such instances, a corresponding tendency does not fail to show itself in the pupils. Had the mental habit of these teachers been inert and colorless, it would have been next to useless to expect the minds of their pupils to manifest interest in literature, or to react on what they have been brought in contact with, as they have done in many instances. It is for more (and more fully developed) work in precisely these lines that I now express my hope, and make my appeal; and teachers may be assured that they will find the public library a cheerful co-operator in all such enterprises.

## THE GUILELESS WEST ON "WEEDING OUT."

By John W. Harbourne, *Librarian Free Library, Alameda, Cal.*

Assuming it to be desirable that in the pages of the Journal the widest possible range should be given to the discussion of subjects of vital interest to public libraries, I, as a librarian poised on the extreme outer edge of the sunset-land — beyond which there is nothing in range — rise to offer a few remarks, partly in reply to, and otherwise concerning, an article by Mr. Stevenson, of the Carnegie Library, in your March number.

Mr. Stevenson is sorely exercised over the large percentage of fiction read by his patrons, and proposes checking the demand by curtailing the supply; and the more speedily and effectually to accomplish this end, he begins by weeding out the authors which — according to his own showing — find most favor with Carnegie readers. In short, by cutting off what they do want he purposes compelling them to take what they don't want. Nothing could be simpler if he can make it work. Here, in the remote and guileless west, he would find it work elegantly. People here never hesitate about taking what they don't want, and they invariably take it in a forcible manner if neccessary.

Let me compare our Alameda library with that of Allegheny, Pa. Mr. Stevenson's report for 1896 shows 29,316 v., a loss of 38; and issued for home use 122,784. Receipts $15,000; expenses $14,995. Average for fiction 86.69 per cent. My report for the same year shows 20,416 v., loss 21; issued for home use 115,126. Receipts $8405; expenses $7359. Average for fiction and juvenile 68 per cent. The population of Alameda, be it remembered, is 15,000, as against a population of over 105,000 in Allegheny.

Mr. Stevenson dwells with much weight upon the superior culture of Allegheny, yet his percentage for fiction is 86.69, while Alameda, geographically situated far beyond the outermost limits of the region to which culture is indigenous, shows only 68 per cent. for fiction. This looks bad for culture. But there is worse to follow; for Mr. Stevenson tells us that in Boston the percentage of fiction is so high that the librarians there are ashamed to publish returns. Now, there are two things for which Boston is world-famed — culture and baked beans. And right here we get some pointers which ought to be of service to Mr. Stevenson. In Alameda, where people go little on culture and still less on beans, the proportion of fiction is low. In Allegheny, which is high in culture and uncertain on beans, the proportion is large; while in Boston, which is exuberant in culture and insatiable on beans, the percentage is unmentionably great. "The moral of which" is: that a superlative degree of fiction inevitably accompanies excess of culture, with beans on the side.

We have on the shelves of our library all of the authors whom Mr. Stevenson proposes to weed out so as to discourage and lessen the demand for fiction. His example is one which my experience does not in the least incline me to follow, for I stand upon a much broader base than Mr. Stevenson concerning the functions of a public library, *in that I hold that it should be designed to entertain, and thereby attract the young from objectionable pleasures, as well as to instruct.*

Let me give Mr. Stevenson a suggestion, which, in the light of my own experience will, I believe, much better serve the end he has in view than his proposed weeding out, and that is: *to allow the public free access to his shelves.* Let them select from the books and not from a catalog, and within a period the brevity of which will surprise him, the system, if properly handled will, I am sure, inevitably surprise him more. Four years ago, when I took charge of this library, the circulation was 51,332 volumes for home use, the percentage for fiction was 89 per cent., and the cost of service four cents and one mill per volume (salaries being the basis). As soon as possible after my induction I introduced the system of free access, and as a result, now, with an issue of 115,126 for home use, the percentage for fiction is reduced to 68 per cent., and the cost of service to two cents and one mill. This result has been attained without any weeding out; and it has been my experience, both as librarian and for 18 years as a bookseller in the cosmopolitan city of San Francisco, that people, of their own volition, almost invariably work from the lighter to the higher classes of literature.

Mr. Stevenson avers that the works of Roe, Alger, "Marion Harland," and others, which he proposes to exclude, are "not literature." This, taken in conjunction with another averment recently promulgated at the opposite end of the state to that whereon Mr. Stevenson is perched, would seem to indicate that Pennsylvania is a sort of stamping-ground of those holding, and prepared to express, peculiar views as to what constitutes the literature which people may, without incurring odium, be permitted to read.

Hamlin Garland, one of the best known of modern American writers of fiction, has also become sadly worried over the taste shown by many people for the works of that much-beloved author, Charles Dickens. In connection with this matter, one of our most noted Californian editors reaches out for Mr. Garland thus: "Genius, Hamlin Garland, was a valet to Charles Dickens before you commenced to sprinkle the sickening sugar of your 'polish' on the frosted cake of your English. He read stories in human faces so grandly sweet, so tenderly touching, so pure in thought and in teaching, that no man has read Charles Dickens and not been a better man for it; and no woman has perused his pages and not been brought closer to her God."

"Strange to say," says Mr. Stevenson, "some western libraries make a much better showing in this regard [the percentage of fiction] than the older eastern libraries." Strange, no doubt, to those who have not outgrown the fiction as to the wildness and the wooliness of the west, and who still cling to the fallacy that the east, of which they are atomic constituents, has a "corner" on culture.

There is nothing of resentment on our part against the fiction, nor of protest against the fallacy. We would lose much in the way of amusement by the extinction of either, and would feel the void that aches if deprived of both. We would, for example, miss the surprise of Mr. Stevenson at the evidence of the higher intellectual standard of the western reader which he cites. We would miss the furtive glance of the timorous tenderfoot as his eye vainly searches for the howitzer-"heeled" cowboy and the scalp-lifting "Injun" when he alights amongst us. Nor could we enjoy, as we do so often and so much, the discomfiture of the mediocrities of the stage, the platform and the pulpit, who, flaunting their "eastern triumphs" to awe and subjugate us, come hither in palace cars, and as they alight from the brake-beam on their return, announce that the west is "jay." We of the wildness and the wool do not resent the offensive implication in Mr. Stevenson's "strange" discovery. On the contrary, if he will devote his next vacation to an acceptance of our cordial invitation, hereby extended, to come west, and keep on coming till he joins us on this, the extreme occidental verge, and, as we maintain, one of the loftiest heights of civilization, we will promise him a continual round of surprise parties, and each surprise, to a man of his intellectual and scholarly instincts, will be a revelation and a delight.

So far as it concerns libraries instituted and supported out of the public funds, the matter of the class and character of the literature to be supplied resolves itself simply into a question as to whether the people, who are the masters, or the librarians and directorate, who are the servants, shall set the pace and fix the standard.

We try to inculcate in the minds of our children that we are living under a government of, for, and by the people, and not under a paternal or monarchical sway. Dryden says:

> "Men are but children of a larger growth;
> Our appetites are as apt to change as theirs."

I believe that all librarians should have constantly before them the fact that there are

> "Many men of many minds,
> Many men of many kinds."

## A FRENCH CLASSIFICATION AND NOTATION.

THE *Mémorial de la Librairie Française* in its issues of Dec. 17 and 24, 1896 (nos. 51 and 52) reprinted in translation the paper on "Systems of shelf notation" contributed by Mr. H. H. Langton, of Toronto University, to the LIBRARY JOURNAL for October, 1896 (21 : 441). Mr. Langton's article evokes a reply from M. Albert Maire, librarian of the University of Paris, which appears in the *Mémorial* for Jan. 7. M. Maire agrees that the adoption of a shelf notation consisting of certain initials corresponding to the first letters of the name of the science to be classified is preferable to the adoption of an arbitrary symbol applied to a scientific subject, and points out that the method suggested by Mr. Langton is used in almost similar form in two of the great libraries of France, where its judicious employment renders real service to the officers as well as to the persons who frequent the library.

"Why," he asks, "should we have a new bibliographical notation when one already exists similar to that described by Mr. Langton? Are we not already sufficiently overwhelmed by all the existing bibliographical systems? These interminable theories of numbers and symbols, alas, encumber technical bibliography and do not advance the science a single step, and who can assure us that we will not see before the end of our short career a dozen other systems rise up and overwhelm us?" M. Maire refers to the recent "triumphant refutation of the decimal system," with "its enticing theories, and its numbers co-ordinated one with another into series of threes, when they were not afflicted with an additional minor number, added, doubtless, to simplify the classification." This example should serve to teach librarians that if science, literary or scientific, is one great whole its parts are eminently fluid, that is to say, subject to variations, to multiple transformations, and to subdivisions that are sometimes of greater importance than their main part. The result is that no bibliographical system can be perfect *à priori*. One cannot attain perfection in systems of classification of human knowledge, whether such systems be made objectively or scientifically, subjectively or philosophically, and still less if they be made from the point of view of pure bibliography. It seems best, therefore, to accept things as they are at present, but to make such modifications as shall be best adapted to the individual needs of the library.

The libraries in which the system of notation described by Mr. Langton is used, in somewhat modified form, are, first, the library of the University of Paris (section of Letters and Sciences, Sorbonne); and second, that of the Superior Normal School of Paris. It has been in use for over 40 years, and was devised by M. Lebas, formerly administrator of the two libraries. "The Lebas system," continues M. Maire, "rests upon a series of initial letters corresponding to the names of the various sciences. Its skeleton consists of seven capital letters: B: Bibliography, T: Theology, S: Science, L: Literature, H: History, I: Incunabula, M: Manuscripts. To these primary capital letters are joined others which define at once the greater scientific divisions, thus: B. G.: Bibliography, General; B. S.: Bibliography, Special; T. E.: Theology, Writings (*Ecritures*); T. C.: Theology, Councils; T. T.: Theology, Theologians; T. P.: Theology, Polemic; S. D.: Science, Dictionaries; S. P.: Science, Philosophical; S. G.: Science, Governmental (political); S. N.: Science, Natural; S. M.: Science, Medical; S. O.: Science, Occult; S. Φ.: Science, Physical; S. A.: Science, Art (fine arts); L. P.: Literature, Philology; L. H.: Literature, History; L. M.: Literature, Middle Age; L. G.: Literature, Greek; L. L.: Literature, Latin; L. F.: Literature, French; H. U.: History, Universal; H. A.: History, Ancient; H. M.: History, Modern; H. F.: History, French; H. V.: History, Voyages (descriptive geography); H. L.: History, Legislation, etc., etc.

"Special and particular subdivisions of the sciences are indicated by means of a lower case letter written by hand, for the advantage of the system is that it allows the main class initials to be printed in advance on the book-labels. Thus the labels are as follows: B. S. b.: Bibliography, Special, libraries (*Bibliothèques*); S. P. i.: Science, Philology, logic; L. G. o.: Literature, Greek, orators, etc., etc.

"It is probable that some modifications might profitably be introduced in this system, but, with such exceptions, the plan of the classification meets the exigencies of the entire field of human knowledge. It is elastic enough to lend itself to the inevitable interweavings, and it is sufficiently firm to be limited to a small number of works."

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## AN INDEX TO PORTRAITS.

THE next considerable bibliographical work to be undertaken by co-operation is an index to portraits contained in books or in published collections. We have "Poole's index to periodical literature," we have the "A. L. A. index" to essay literature, and the "A. L. A. catalog." We now want, among other library tools, an index to portraits, and such an index is now in progress under the supervision of the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., the executive board of which has appointed Mr. William C. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, as editor.

It is proposed to bring together in this index as much valuable material as possible, including, beside the standard collections of portraits and other illustrated works of first-rate excellence, and sets of illustrated periodicals, on the one hand expensive and perhaps rare books, valuable on account of the excellent or unique portraits they may contain, though they may not be very generally accessible, and on the other hand, books containing even second-rate work if they are commonly to be found in libraries. In this way the index will be made as generally useful as possible. There is a very

large amount of material in genealogies and local histories which claims admittance on the ground that many of the portraits to be found in these books are not to be met with elsewhere, and though often of more or less obscure persons, it is for just such persons that an index is most useful when the rare occasion comes that their portraits are wanted. It is intended to leave works of this kind till the last, and include them or not according to what seems best when the whole has taken more definite shape.

The work is not to be confined to any period or any nation or any class, it is entirely general in its scope, and it is non-selective in its character; that is, all the portraits in any book which is taken up are included. This plan necessarily indexes much of slight and ephemeral value, but as Mr. Samuel, of Philadelphia, who has worked long in this field and has considered the subject carefully, says: "Library practice shows that almost any item of information on a given subject is sure to be of some use in time, so that it is difficult to predict certainly of anything that it will have no value; and, in regard to portraits, one which is of little value now may, owing to the celebrity of a descendant, or other cause, become of value later." Such a plan eliminates the personal judgment of the compiler, and, in particular, the necessity of future search for any given portrait that might in a selective plan be supposed to have been omitted is thus obviated.

No criticism of portraits or discussion of their relationships, authenticity, or relative value is attempted — the index will simply bring together as much possibly useful material as it can and further critical or comparative work must be left to other hands. This branch of investigation being shut out, it follows that the index can give only such information in regard to the artists as the plate itself or the accompanying text furnishes. An occasional note will be added when necessary, to indicate that the portrait is a caricature, a death mask, a statue, or a medal, or that the subject is accompanied by his wife or is represented in the character of so-and-so, or as so many years of age, etc., but the size, position, and other details will not be noticed. This limitation will make it possible to arrange the page in columns, giving in the first column the reference to the work indexed, in the second and third the names of the artists (painter and engraver) when known, or the abbreviation "photo" when the picture is produced or reproduced by photography, and a fourth column for the occasional necessary note. To try to give more than this would make the work, which at the least promises to be very extensive, altogether unwieldy and impracticable.

In reaching this decision the editor has had the advantage of the counsel of Mr. Bunford Samuel, of the Philadelphia Library Company, whose extensive collection of material, amounting to some 40,000 references to portraits of about 22,000 individuals, has been generously placed at the disposition of the Publishing Section.

The Boston Athenæum has also indexed on cards a large number of portraits (perhaps 10,000) in art collections and art periodicals, and these will also be made use of. Yet in spite of all this there still remain many books and periodicals containing important material which must be indexed and incorporated with that already collected before the whole should be sent to the printer. The work is now well under way: Mr. Samuel's references are being copied on cards; Miss Browne, the assistant secretary of the Publishing Section, is giving all her spare time to work in the same direction; the Cleveland Public Library, in connection with the work on the "Cumulative index" is noting the portraits in current periodicals; and the co-operation of librarians and of others interested in work of this kind is now asked in collecting additional material. The first instalment of a list of works or sets containing portraits which should be included is appended. On this list those that have been already indexed or provided for are marked with an asterisk. The editor will be glad to receive offers of help in indexing the others. He will also be glad to have his attention called to other books which contain good portraits, this preliminary list being necessarily imperfect, omitting much of value and doubtless including some works which, on further examination, it may be found not worth while to index.

The work is to be done on specially prepared cards, a supply of which will be forwarded to any competent person who is willing to help. A printed sheet of general directions has also been prepared as a guide to collaborators.

The co-operation of all who have had some experience in work of this kind is invited. Please address all communications to the editor, William C. Lane, Librarian Boston Athenæum, Boston, Mass.

PRELIMINARY LIST OF BOOKS TO BE INDEXED.

Adam, G. M. Illustrated Quebec. Mont. 1891.
Adkins. Our countrymen of Northamptonshire. L. 1893.
**Ainsworth magazine.*
*Allen, F. H. Masterpieces of modern German art. 2 v. B. 1884.
Almanach de Gotha. 1776–1896.
Amato. Panteon dei martiri della libert. Ital. 2 v. Torino 1851.
*American angler.* v. 1–*date.* N. Y. 1881–*date.*
**American art review.* 2 v. Bost. 1880–81.
*American monthly magazine.*
**American universal magazine.*
**American whig review.*
Ammidown, H. Historical collections. 2 v. N. Y. 1874.
**Analectic.*
Anderson. The Scottish nation. 3 v. Edin. 1896.
Annals of Iowa. 12 v. Iowa City 1863–74.
*Archer. Pictures and royal portraits. 2 v. Lond. 1884.
*Arena.*
Arena album. Bost. 1893.
Arena portfolio. [Bost. 187–.]
**Arminian magazine*, *Methodist magazine*, *Wesleyan Methodist magazine.*
Arnault, *and others.* Biog. nouvelle des contemporains. 20 v. P. 1820–25.
**L'art.*
**Art and letters*, conducted by J. C. Carr. 2 v. Lond. 1881–3.
*Art annual.*
**Art journal.* L. 1849–*date.*
**L'art pour tous.* P. 1869.

*Art union. L. 1839–48.
*Bailey's magazine.*
*Baine's Hist. of the wars of the French revolution. L. 1817.
*Ballestrem, E. Maria Stuart. Hamb. 1889.
*Bardi. Galerie du palais Pitti. Florence 1842.
Barnes, W: H. Supreme court of U. S. W. 1877.
Bartlett. Mem. of R. I. officers. Prov. 1867.
*Bay-state monthly.* v. 1–. B. 1884–.
Beath, R. B. History of the Grand Army of the Republic. N. Y. 1889.
Begg, Alex. History of the Northwest. 3 v. Toronto 1894.
**La belle assemblée.*
*Belloris. Veterum illustrium philosophorum imagines. Rome 1685.
Benedite. Le musée du Luxembourg Paris [1894.]
**Bentley's miscellany.*
Bernouilli. Römische ikonographie. 2 v. in 4. Stuttgart 1882.
*Bianchini, G. Dei granduchidi Toscana della real casa de Medici ragionamenti istoria. Ven. 1741.
Biographie dei dogi di Venezia. 2 v. Ven. 1855.
*Biographical encyclopedia of Pennsylvania. Phil. 1874.
*Biographical cyclopedia of representative men of Maryland and D. C. Balt. 1879.
*Birch. Heads of illustrious persons of Great Britain. Lond. 1813.
Black. Notable women authors of the day. Glasgow 1893.
**Book news* (Wanamaker's).
Booth-Tucker. Life of Catherine Booth. 2 v. N. Y. 1892.
Bouchot. Portraits aux crayons des 16e and 17e siècles. P. 1884.
*Bouillon, P. Musée des antiques. Paris, n. d.
Bourgeois, E. Le grand siècle. P. 1896.
Bourne, H. R. Fox. Famous London merchants. 1869.
Brockett, L. P. *and* Vaughan. Woman's work in the civil war. Phil. 1867.
*Brotherhead. Lives of the signers. Phil. 1896.
Brougham. Statesmen of the time of George III. 3 v. L. 1839–43.
Brougham. Lives of men of letters and science. L. 1845.
Bullart. Académie des sciences et des arts. Bruxelle MDCXCV.
Bullock, C: Our bishops and clergy. L. 18–.
*Bungay, G: W. Off-hand takings. N. Y. 1854.
Burke. Hist. of the lord chancellors of Ireland. Dub. 1879.
*Buitré. American portrait gallery. 3 v. N. Y. [1877.]
[Byrne] Gossip of the century. 2 v. N. Y. 1892.
Cabinet portrait gallery of British worthies. 12 v. in 6. Lond. 1845.
*Cameron, H. H. H. Alfred Lord Tennyson and his friends. L. 1893.
*Campaign of Waterloo. L. 1816.
Campbell. Lives of the British admirals. 8 v. L. 1817.
**Campbell's foreign semi-monthly.*
*Campo, A. Historia di Cremona. Cremona 1583.
*Carderera y Solano. Iconografia española. 2 v. in 1. Madrid 1853–63.
**Casket.*
*Cassell's illustrated history of England.
*Catholic world.*
Centennial celebration of Washington's inauguration. Groton. 1889.
**Century magazine.*
Chambers. Biog. dictionary of eminent Scotsmen. 4 v. Glasgow 1835.
— *Same* Glasgow 1855.
*Chapbook.*
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## RECENT LIBRARY LEGISLATION IN WISCONSIN.

THE session of the Wisconsin legislature which has just closed has won for the members the credit of having done wiser work than any of their predecessors since the war. It has been economical and conservative, and has cut off some needless expenditures, but it has been liberal to educational institutions. The libraries have fared remarkably well, and the efforts of their friends met with little opposition. This favorable result has been due to a good public sentiment created by the persistent and enthusiastic work of the Wisconsin Library Association during the past six years, to the help given to it by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission during the past year, to the cordial cooperation of the teachers and of the women's clubs, to the hearty sympathy for the work of the free travelling libraries, and, largely, to the warm respect felt for Senator J. H. Stout by his fellow-members of the legislature and their desire to show their gratitude for his generous and wise gifts to the cause of education.

The most noteworthy of the new laws is that which practically establishes a "public libraries department" of the state administration under the charge of the Free Library Commission. The annual appropriation to the commission was increased from $500 to $4000, and it was given an office in the capitol building, with all necessary office fixtures and supplies and authority to have its necessary bills for printing, postage, expressage, drayage, and telegraphing audited and paid from the general fund. The commission is given authority to employ a permanent secretary "and such other expert assistance" as may be necessary, but the salaries

and expenses of these officers must be paid from the special appropriation.

The general law relating to the establishment of free public libraries by cities and villages was amended by striking out the words which limited the annual tax to support such libraries to "one mill on the dollar of taxable property," and by omitting the clause which made it necessary to secure an affirmative vote of the people before a library could be maintained by tax. Under the law as amended any common council, village board, or town board in a town of more than 1000 inhabitants, may establish and equip a public library from its general fund, and may levy an annual tax to support it, but moneys levied for the support of a library after it is established must be kept in a separate fund, and all moneys voted for library purposes must be expended by a "library board."

While a popular vote was useful in educating the people to desire a library, the necessity of waiting for the annual election often allowed popular enthusiasm to evaporate, and, frequently, notices for the elections were not made soon enough or necessary technicalities were not observed. The removal of this restriction will make it much easier to secure the establishment of libraries.

By a recent amendment to the library law, city superintendents of schools are made *ex-officio* members of the library boards in the cities where they are employed.

A third amendment allows library boards to make contracts by which the books of their libraries and their reading-rooms may be made as free to non-residents as to residents. It also gives town, village, and county boards the authority to make contracts with library boards to secure the full privileges of libraries and reading-rooms for their constituents. This amendment opens the way to a number of experiments. In one county the county board is already discussing a proposition to have the people of the county supplied with books from a flourishing library at the county seat by means of a system of travelling libraries.

Two years ago the legislature appropriated $180,000 to build one-half of a building for the use of the state historical society and the library of the state university. The half to be used by the historical society was the first to be completed. The legislature, which has just adjourned, has appropriated $240,000 additional to complete the structure and to equip it. The plans for the entire building have been made, and the portion which is to be occupied by the historical society is partly built. It has an admirable location on the university grounds, within 10 minutes' walk from the capitol. When the building is completed it will bring under one roof the libraries of the historical society, the university, the state academy of arts and sciences, and the office of the state library commission. It will also afford room for the summer school of library science. It will be dedicated June 7, 1898, and the dedication will be the central event in the celebration of the semi-centennial year of the founding of the commonwealth. To support the historical society properly in its new home the legislature added $10,000 to its annual appropriation. The legislature also added $2000 to the annual appropriation to the university summer school, though no money will come from this new appropriation till next year. Part of this additional appropriation is to be used for the summer school of library science, which is thus put upon a permanent basis. The annual appropriation for the state library (law) was also increased from $2500 to $3500.

Strange as it may seem in a country where we are supposed to believe in local self-government, the legislature also increased the local tax rate in Milwaukee for the benefit of its public library to eight-twenty-fifths of a mill. This amendment to the law will give the Milwaukee library an income of $47,000 next year instead of $35,000. The increase was made with the hearty sanction of the best citizens of Milwaukee at a time when they were laboring zealously to have nearly all other municipal expenditures decreased.

The friends of libraries in Wisconsin are working hard but uncomplainingly to adapt themselves to these new conditions, but if Senator Stout continues his efforts, and Miss Stearns gives two years to missionary work in the field, they will probably find it necessary to adapt themselves again to better conditions after the next meeting of the legislature.

F. A. H.

## EXHIBITS OF PHOTOGRAPHS, POSTERS, ENGRAVINGS, ETC.

*C. A. Cutter, in 2d report of Forbes Library.*

THESE exhibitions are a way of making the library known. People are drawn to the library to see the show, and when there it occurs to them to register and take books. Our registered membership always grows faster during an exhibition. But this is not all. In accordance with the curious fact that men see what is about them better after seeing it imitated in art, the Sella views of the Alps must have opened some one's eyes to the winter beauty of Mt. Holyoke and Mt. Tom; the Soule Corots and Rousseaus must have drawn a new attention to our elms and pines. A public library should be the centre of culture of its town. It should promote knowledge, literature, and art, by every means in its power. Almost the only point to be regretted in the construction of our building is that it does not allow us to make it the headquarters and place of meeting of our literary clubs. It has, however, room for exhibitions, large and small, which have been very fortunate for us. Those which we have held have, I am sure, not only given pleasure, which in itself would be a sufficient justification, but have broadened their visitors' minds, have supplied some of the advantages of travel to those who could not leave home, have renewed the impressions of those who have been abroad; have increased the knowledge of art and educated the taste of all who saw them.

## THE CHILDREN'S "STORY" BOOK-MARK.

THE children's bookmark, shown in the April number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, was written by the late Rev. Henry Doty Maxson, of Menomonie, Wis, for the Mabel Tainter Memorial Library of that city about six years ago. "It has been in constant use ever since," writes Miss Lucas, librarian of that library, "and the children do not seem to tire of it, but prefer it to any other that we have tried." The "Memorial," as the library is generally called, took the form of a combined library and church largely through the efforts of Mr. Maxson, whose memory is warmly cherished by the Tainter family, Senator Stout, and other of his parishioners. The bookmark proved so useful and attractive that it is now used by most of the Wisconsin libraries and by all the travelling libraries of that state. It has been suggested that it should be known as the "Maxson bookmark," to keep in memory a man whose life was devoted to good works and promised a wide usefulness.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

### *19th GENERAL CONFERENCE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 21-JULY 1, 1897.*

THE executive board has issued a descriptive circular regarding the Philadelphia conference, and giving further details of the program, as follows:

#### PLACE OF MEETING.

It was clear to the executive board that it was advisable to hold the meeting of the association near the Atlantic seaboard, both for the convenience of the large delegation which will represent the association at the international meeting in London, and because the last two meetings had been held west of the Alleghenies. It was decided, after mature deliberation, to accept the cordial invitation tendered by the Philadelphia library authorities and others and meet in that city. The board was led to this decision by a consideration of the ample and comfortable hotel accommodations and convenient places for meeting, by the beauty of the surroundings and the possibility of arranging delightful post-conference trips in the vicinity, and by the interest which all librarians feel in the recent wonderful growth of the library work in Philadelphia. It seemed eminently fitting, too, that the meeting at which the association attained its majority should be held in the city in which it was founded in the centennial year.

#### TIME OF MEETING.

The meeting will be held from the 21st to the 25th of June in Philadelphia and until July 1st at the Delaware Water Gap. The date of the meeting in Philadelphia immediately precedes the sailing of the party for England, and was decided upon mainly for that reason. It is hoped, however, that they will meet equally well the convenience of all members of the association, as they immediately follow the closing of most schools, and yet are earlier than the extreme heat of summer.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

Application has been duly made for reduced rates on the railways, and a rate of one and one-third fare on the certificate plan will be granted.

#### HOTELS.

Arrangements have been concluded with the proprietors of the Aldine Hotel, Chestnut street, to receive the visiting members of the association at the rate of $2.50 a day. The hotel can receive 600 visitors.

#### PROGRAM.

June 21, Monday evening, social meeting at Historical Society rooms.

The morning session, Tuesday, June 22, will be devoted to the President's address and the reports of officers and committees. The afternoon session to a review of the books of the year, conducted by Miss Mary S. Cutler, of the New York State Library School. A public meeting will be held in the evening, at which addresses will be given by Dr. William Pepper, Dr. Henry Howard Furness, Dr. Talcott Williams, Agnes Repplier, and others.

For Wednesday morning two programs will be arranged in different halls; one treating of college and advanced library work, to be conducted by the chairman of the college section, and another treating of elementary library practice for the benefit of the younger members of the association. The afternoon will be occupied by a ride to the Wissahickon, and the evening by a reception and organ concert at the Drexel Institute.

Thursday morning will be devoted to a discussion of library legislation and the travelling library, the afternoon to the work of the library for children, and the evening to the consideration of library architecture and addresses on other subjects.

Friday morning will be given to a continuation of the double program of Wednesday morning.

One or more meetings of the Trustees' Section will be arranged for by Mr. G. A. Macbeth, the chairman, and duly announced in the next circular.

It is believed that the division of the association for two sessions will afford an opportunity for those who are engaged in the larger and more advanced work to discuss problems of especial interest to them, and at the same time an opportunity will be given, for the benefit of those who are less experienced in the work, to consider much that is familiar to those who have been in attendance at former meetings. Especial attention will be given in some of the

reports to a review of the progress of the past 21 years, and the papers and discussions will include some of the most important questions of the day.

On Friday afternoon the European delegation will take their departure, and those going upon the American post-conference trip will start on Saturday.

POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION.

It is planned that the American post-conference excursion will leave Philadelphia at 12 m. Saturday, reaching Delaware Water Gap at 4:39.

Dinner and a social evening with music until midnight will prepare for the enjoyment of a quiet Sunday. On Monday an excursion is planned for Dingman's Ferry; on Tuesday to Bushkill Falls; on Wednesday a circuit excursion, passing through Cherry Valley; on Thursday morning a mountain climb, and in the afternoon a steamboat excursion of three or four hours. On Friday an excursion to Buttermilk Falls and other places will conclude what promises to be a most delightful post-conference excursion. The cost is estimated at $22 to $25.

INTERNATIONAL MEETING.

The circulars already issued by the special committee give full particulars of the excursion to England and of the second international library meeting in London, which promises to be of unusual importance and interest. The itinerary affords an opportunity of visiting some of the most interesting and beautiful places in England, and also affords an unusual opportunity of studying English libraries, and the executive board strongly urges every member of the association, who possibly can do so, to go. They desire that the association shall be fully and creditably represented, and they believe that all who go will be amply repaid, not alone by the pleasure of the trip, but by the valuable lessons in library matters that may be learned of our English cousins.

The American delegates will sail from Boston, June 26, at 7 a.m., in the Cunard steamer *Cephalonia*, arriving in Liverpool July 5. The journey to London will be made by easy stages, visiting Manchester, Birmingham, Kenilworth, Norwich, Stratford, and Leamington on the way, and arriving on the morning of July 12.

The International Conference of Librarians will be in session in London July 13 to 16, inclusive. The meeting will be held in the London Corporation Guild Hall, and Sir John Lubbock will preside.

The program is in preparation, and English, American, and continental librarians have been invited to contribute papers.

Headquarters for the American delegates will be at the office of the Library Bureau, Limited, 10 Bloomsbury Street, W. C., London, where members may have their mail addressed and find facilities for correspondence.

*July* 17 – 26 will be devoted to a post-conference trip to the West Coast, visiting Salisbury, Glastonbury, Wells, Cardiff, Bristol, Bath, and Oxford. It is expected that the entire membership of the conference will join this excursion.

*July* 26 – 30 are free days, and may be spent in London or elsewhere, as suits individual tastes. Numerous short side trips are available, or a hurried trip to Paris.

*July* 31 – *August* 12. Return to Liverpool via the East Coast and Scotland, visiting Cambridge, Ely, Lincoln, Sheffield, Leeds, York, Durham, Newcastle, Abbotsford, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Sterling, and Chester, sailing August 12, and due to arrive at Boston August 22.

Invitations to members of the conference have already been received from the Lord Mayor of London, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Bishop of Salisbury, Mayor of Bath, library committees of Leeds, Sheffield, and Liverpool, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and the Mayor of Manchester. The importance of the conference, the opportunity of seeing England and English libraries under the most delightful auspices, the interest of our English friends and their graceful offers of hospitable entertainment afford the opportunity of a lifetime, and seem to demand a large and influential American delegation.

*Cost of the trip.*

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|---|---|
| Boston to Boston, including entire time, English post-conference trip, board in London for the free days, membership in international conference, insuring copy of proceedings | $360. |
| Boston to Boston, exclusive of the fortnight, July 17–31, the post-conference trip, and free days | 290. |
| Boston to end of conference in London. | 142.50 |
| London to Boston from July 30, Eastern Coast and Scotland, and return steamer passage | 157.50 |
| London to Liverpool, East Coast and Scotland trip only | 83. |
| Liverpool to end of London conference. | 68. |
| International post-conference trip to East Coast | 60. |
| Steamer, minimum first-class passage each way | 75. |
| London to Paris and return, including all expenses for five days | 25. |

Early circulars stated that deposits must be made by April 1, but this time has been extended, and excellent accommodations can still be had. Address all correspondence to the Library Bureau, 125 Franklin street, Boston, Mass.

PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia has more libraries which are of interest from an historical point than any other city in the United States. It is not possible in the space that can be here given to the subject to enumerate them all, but amongst those which will attract visiting librarians is the Library of the American Philosophical Society, the outcome of Benjamin Franklin's Junto. The Philadelphia Library Company, incorporated in 1731, is also indebted to Franklin for its foundation and is well known as "the

mother of all subscription libraries." It has probably the strongest general reference collection in the city, and its buildings have recently been enlarged. The Apprentices' Library was incorporated in 1821 and was instituted for the benefit of young men engaged as apprentices in the various trades. It is still a very active institution and will be found in a handsome new home just purchased on North Broad street, corner of Brandywine. The Mercantile Library has existed since 1821, and is one of the best examples of the subscription library. It has a large building, in which have been accumulated 180,000 volumes. The Pennsylvania Historical Society is one of the most important libraries of its class and has been exceedingly active in the collection of historical matter. The Library of the Academy of Natural Science has one of the best American collections of works on natural history. In the Library of the College of Physicians and Surgeons will be found one of the strongest collections of medical books, the result of much patient and earnest work. The Library of the University of Pennsylvania consists of over 110,000 volumes and is especially strong in the languages and sociology. The Drexel Institute Library contains 20,000 volumes, and is free to all. The Free Library of Philadelphia consists of the Central Library, on Chestnut street, and 10 branches, situated in various parts of the city, each forming, so far as its books are concerned, an independent library. This institution, though only recently established, now leads all the libraries of the world in circulation. The city has recently voted $1,000,000 toward the purchase of a library site and building. The library of the City Institute has, for many years, done most useful work in distributing books free of charge. Besides this, must be mentioned the libraries of the Wagner Free Institute of Science, with a collection of books principally devoted to works of natural science; Franklin Institute, which has a strong collection of books on applied science; the Spring Garden Institute, and the very valuable library in Girard College for the use of the 2000 boys and teachers, which form the population of this world-known charity.

The visitors will find scattered through the city of Philadelphia a large number of important buildings and institutions which will attract them, because of their historical and architectural interests.

Independence Hall, with its park-like square behind, was built between 1729 and 1734. It is unnecessary to say that this building is probably, from an historical point, the most interesting in the United States, as being the scene where the Declaration of Independence was matured and signed; those interested in such matters may see the table on which the parchment was spread to be signed, and also the chairs in which the members of that day were seated. Carpenters Hall will ever be deemed sacred as having been used by the first Congress of the United States. The building of the Ridgeway Branch of the Philadelphia Library Company is a splendid granite edifice in the Doric style of architecture and was finished in 1877. It is capable of accommodating 400,000 volumes and has many rare books to interest visiting bibliophiles. The buildings of the University of Pennsylvania are numerous. The fine series of dormitories just erected and Houston Hall will repay a visit. The oldest Episcopal church in the city is Christ Church, the first part of which was erected before 1700; the present building has been constructed at different times. Bishop White was rector of this church, and in it the celebrated George Whitefield was permitted to preach. Washington and Franklin families attended there and the bells are said to be the oldest on this side of the Atlantic. The Drexel Institute merits ample description, but as the business meetings of the association will be held there it seems unnecessary to describe the building. The Academy of Fine Arts, with its pictures and fine collection of prints, will draw many to visit its interesting collections, and the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art should not be overlooked. Fairmount Park is naturally the pride of Philadelphia and comprises over 3000 acres of ground, has 50 miles of carriage drives and 1000 miles of paths for pedestrians. It is dotted with many interesting buildings, such as Memorial Hall and the Horticultural Garden House. The home which belonged to Benedict Arnold still stands, and Penn's House has been removed from the lower part of the city into the Park for preservation. A card itinerary will be prepared for the visitors, showing by what cars the places above mentioned can be most readily reached.

### DELAWARE WATER GAP.

The Water Gap was selected for the post-conference trip on account of its being probably the most attractive of the districts around the eastern section of Pennsylvania. It is situated on the Delaware river, between mounts Minsi and Tammany, and is 105 miles from Philadelphia. The railroad trip is exceedingly picturesque, following the course of the river throughout the entire distance. The large number of walks and drives makes it the resort of Philadelphians and New Yorkers, and it has the additional attraction of being a splendid field of enjoyment for bicyclists. The points of interest in the surrounding country are very numerous, including Lake Poponoming, the beautiful drive through the Beaver and Cherry Valleys, the vicinity of Stroudsburg, the picturesque Brodhead's Creek, Henryville, Spragueville, Bushkill, Dingman's Ferry, and Mount Pocono, which are all within one day's march, and many of them less. Visitors can have drives, bicycle rides, steamboat excursions, rowing, and last but not least, a visit to the Lover's Seat.

Kittatinny House will form very comfortable and admirable headquarters. The hotel has accommodations for 600 visitors. The rooms are nearly all alike, so that one is as comfortable as another, and the hotel is almost directly over the Gap. It is proposed to make this house

the headquarters for the post-conference trip and to provide accommodation at the various points of interest for parties who desire to make excursions.

The railway fare will be $1.74 each. The hotel will receive visitors at the special rate of $2.75 per day, and if any desire to remain over the Saturday, Sunday, and Monday following (which will include the Fourth of July) they can do so at the same rate. Drives for the day will be charged to the parties at the rate of $1 each; afternoon drives to the places above mentioned will be made up, and the rate will be 50 cents, and steamboat excursions 25 cents.

An illustrated handbook is in preparation by the Philadelphia Local Committee of the conference, which gives fuller and further details as to the points and places above mentioned.

*LATER NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.*

PLANS for the International Library Conference and for the English post-conference trip are now practically completed, and the prospects for a large and representative gathering of American librarians are most encouraging. The time within which those intending to go must make application and deposit has been extended, and all who are debating the matter are urged to settle it promptly in the affirmative. Already 62 persons have registered for the trip, and it is thought that at least 75 will go abroad in the party, while a number, who depart by other routes, will be present in London at the time of the meeting. Among those who have signified their intention of going with the A. L. A. party are Messrs. Winsor, Crunden, Cutter, Steiner, Stevenson, Andrews, Lane, Dewey, Nolan, and Jenks; Miss James, Miss Hewins, Miss Browne, Miss Wildman, Miss Sheldon, Miss Mary Jones, Miss Le Crone, and Mrs. Curran. Others who will be present at the international conference are Messrs. Putnam, Bowker, and Thwaites, and Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Jones.

The U. S. Department of State, through Ambassador Hay, has already received notice of the sessions of the conference from Sir John Lubbock, who will be president of the L. A. U. K. for 1897 and will preside at the international meeting. The conference will meet in the Guildhall, as guests of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, and the hospitalities that will be tendered the visitors from their English hosts, not only in London, but all along the route laid out, offer already an almost overwhelming prospect, to which fresh accessions are constantly being made. One of the latest announcements is that Sir Henry Irving purposes to tender to the library conference a special performance of "The Merchant of Venice" during the stay in London, and that the members are invited to a reception on the stage after the performance is over. This is but a specimen of the many delightful plans that are being made for the entertainment and enjoyment of the visitors. Those in charge of the arrangements for the A. L. A. party desire to call attention to the fact that a special rate from Philadelphia to Boston will be obtained for all those leaving the conference proper to take part in the English trip.

The preliminary announcement of the Second International Library Conference has just been received from the London committee of the L. A. U. K. It gives in full the lists of officers and of the committees in charge of arrangements and states the general plan of the meeting. Among those who are named as vice-presidents of the conference are the Duchess of Rutland, the Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Lord Windsor, the Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir George Grey, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Donald Smith, Commissioner for Canada, Sir Edward Maunde Thompson, Sir Walter Besant, Sir Henry Irving, Dr. Richard Garnett, W. E. H. Lecky, Prof. Alex. Beljame, of the Université de France, C. W. Brünn, of the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Dr. Leopold Delisle, of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Prof. C. Dziatzko, of Göttingen; J. Passmore Edwards, Thomas Greenwood, Sidney Lee, Rev. W. H. Milman, and many others.

The announcement briefly states the development of the plan of the conference by the L. A. U. K., as the result of the acceptance by the A. L. A. in 1896 of the invitation to visit the libraries of Great Britain, and continues:

"The great success and widespread influence of the first conference (1877) encourages the committee to hope that the second, inasmuch as it will focus the work of the last 20 years, and enable workers to discuss the results of methods, most of which date from the first conference, will prove to be a still greater success. It is anticipated that the leading spirits in library work throughout the world will attend the conference, and there can be no doubt that the result of the papers and discussions will do much to encourage the progress of the movement, and place at the disposal of the managers of libraries much information which cannot fail to be of value to those desirous of improving the methods used in the libraries they are connected with.

"An exhibition of library appliances, and of everything likely to be of use to librarians and library managers, will be an important feature of the conference, and contributions towards it are invited. Plans of libraries, blank forms, official books, and everything illustrative of library work will be welcome.

"Visits to all the more important libraries of the metropolis and vicinity will be arranged, and a unique opportunity provided of examining their contents and systems of working.

"The Rt. Honorable the Lord Mayor has invited the conference to a conversazione in the Mansion House on the evening of July 13, and Sir Henry Irving has generously arranged to give a special performance of "The Merchant of Venice" on the evening of July 15, to which he has invited all the members. After the more serious business of the conference the members will be entertained at gatherings of a social character, including garden parties, excursions, etc., etc."

*INVITATION FROM THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE.*

THE secretary of the A. L. A. has received from the general secretary of the Institut International de Bibliographie an invitation to the A. L. A. to participate in the bibliographical exposition and conference to be held in Brussels on June 27, under the auspices of the Institut. It is especially desired that the A. L. A. should be represented at the exposition by such of its publications as will "at once make known its organization and the magnificent results which have been obtained to the present time." All exhibits will be classed and arranged by the officers of the Institut and participation in the exposition is absolutely free. The conference, to be held in connection with it, promises to be most interesting and to bring together a very large attendance. The Institut, it is stated, "has lately largely increased its membership in the various countries, and national sections have been, or are being, established in France, in Austria, in Hungary, in Italy, and in Spain." It is urged that all members of the A. L. A., who can arrange to do so, should attend this conference, which is to be held just prior to the international meeting in London.

*A. L. A. BADGE.*

ALL who are planning to attend the Philadelphia conference are urged to equip themselves beforehand with the "outward and visible sign" of their membership in the library ranks, *viz*, the A. L. A. badge. Especially should all delegates to the London international meeting bear this symbol of their profession. The badge, which is the monogram "A. L. A.," is in the form of a pin, in gold and blue enamel, and may be obtained from Miss N. E. Browne, assistant recorder A. L. A., Athenæum, Boston, Mass. Orders should be sent to Miss Browne without delay; the price of the badge is $2.50.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

THE New Hampshire Board of Library Commissioners have just issued their biennial report, covering the period from Dec. 1, 1894, to Dec. 1, 1896. (8 + 64 p. O.) In the previous report 113 towns were recorded as having received state aid in the establishment of a library; since then 17 towns have voted to accept the law, and of these all but one have received the desired aid, There are 19 towns without a library, but that have made a first assessment under the law of 1895, and 19 towns, without free libraries, have voted "inexpedient to establish" at the last town meeting. The effects of the law of 1895, in the commissioners' opinion, have been highly satisfactory, especially in the "compulsory" provision whereby "towns having no library are required to vote 'inexpedient' each year in order to be exempt from assessment, a failure to do so in any one year having the effect to bring the town under the provision requiring an annual assessment. Under the old law neglect and indifference meant no library; under the new legislation neglect to vote each year results favorably to the advancement of library interests." One of the most beneficial results of the law is the development of the idea of town support and control of libraries. The keynote of the whole situation, say the commissioners, lies in the phrase "one town one library," and in connection with this development they deprecate "the adoption of any form of travelling library system by the state," as "not only expensive in practice and unsatisfactory as to results but directly contrary to the policy at present pursued and detrimental to true advancement. If any state ever required such a system, certainly New Hamshire has long since passed beyond that point, and has, we trust, founded a system on broader and surer foundations." This is one of the first criticisms of the travelling library system, from what may be called an official source, that we have seen, and in this case the system has not been tested by its critics. However opinions may differ as to the "paternalism" of a state system of travelling libraries, there can be no question of its wide usefulness and beneficence in scattered rural communities, and it has proved in many cases to be an effective means of arousing public action toward the establishment of local libraries. The issue of bulletins is regarded by the commissioners as one of the most widely and practically useful features of their work, and they plan to add new features to this branch of work as opportunity offers. "We believe," they say, "the provision of law requiring bulletins at stated periods to be one of the most important features of the recent legislation." This opinion, strengthened as it is by experience, is interesting and suggestive.

The report contains the usual full tabulated statistics of New Hampshire libraries; a department of "Notes on library progress," arranged alphabetically by towns, and a series of "Historical sketches" of libraries, illustrated with views of buildings. The library laws of 1891 and 1895 are appended.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

EXTENSION BULLETIN no. 16 of the University of the State of New York is devoted to the report of the Public Libraries Division for 1895, including statistics of New York libraries. This belated report, which covers the year ending Sept. 30, 1895, is dated October, 1896, but was not sent out until the spring of 1897. Naturally, much of the information contained has already appeared in the JOURNAL, but the report is nevertheless worthy of careful attention as a comprehensive and informing exhibit of library development in New York State. Of the effects of state aid and encouragement of libraries the director says: "The influence of the state bounty in raising the standard of library work is evident. In official visitation of libraries at-

tention is constantly called to the need of careful selection and systematic arrangement of books and effective loan systems with accurate records and accounts in every department. The value of business management is always conceded by the libraries. But when the grant of public money depends on official approval of the library in these respects an additional motive of the most practical importance is supplied. The librarian is at once roused to new effort to establish the rank of his library. New books are chosen not merely to meet the varying tastes of constituencies, but also to merit the approval of the regents. Administration becomes a study, and trustees and voters are more than ever ready to supply needed facilities. Money is given by individuals and taxes are voted because the state stands ready to double the amount up to $200 a year. Results have shown that the liberality of the state is fully justified by the new interest thereby excited in library work and the improved quality of the work done."

The report is almost wholly statistical, and all ascertainable facts regarding the libraries of the state are given in varied combinations. The work of the travelling libraries is fully described, as are the university extension libraries, and brief record of library legislation, meetings of library associations, etc., is made. The statistical summaries cover 88 pages, and the report is supplemented by an excellent index.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison, Wis.

THE Wisconsin Free Library Commission has been reorganized since the law under which it was established was amended. The chairman, F. A. Hutchins, and the secretary, Miss L. E. Stearns, have resigned as members of the commission, and the vacancies have been filled by the appointment of Hon. J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, and of Mrs. Lucy E. Morris, of Berlin. Mr. Stout has been chosen chairman of the commission, Mr. Hutchins secretary, and Miss Stearns librarian. The secretary and librarian will devote their whole time to the work, with an office in the capitol building. While Miss Stearns is called librarian, she is expected to be in reality a "library promoter" or "missionary." Miss Stearns will commence her new work as soon as her successor in the Milwaukee library is ready for her duties. Mrs. Morris, who succeeds Miss Stearns as a member of the commission, is the president of the state federation of women's clubs. This federation is strong and active, and its organization is the result of Mrs. Morris's work. She is very much interested in libraries, and is working to build a system of travelling libraries for the use of the women's clubs of the state. The active alliance between the commission and the women's clubs will be made more useful by Mrs. Morris's position upon the commission.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE principal feature of the April meeting, held in the San Francisco Public Library, was a debate on the question, "Should a library school be organized and conducted under the auspices of the San Francisco Public Library?" The question was considered carefully from both sides, but the negative was presented so logically and with such vigor that it won with ease. The argument made was that while careful and specific training is invaluable in the librarian, this training should be in the direction of a general culture, a close study of library economy in the broadest sense, and a thorough knowledge of languages, rather than technical details so easily learned in the practical library life. This being the case, the natural place for such training was the college. Here the student could gain sufficient insight into actual library detail while acquiring the academic training. It was further argued that there was no demand for such a school at present in California, those already in successful operation in the east supplying all demands for trained librarians. A discussion of the proposed tariff on books followed, and it was determined to supplement the individual action already taken with a vigorous protest from the association, in case some negative action should be taken in the senate to the amendment adopted by the house of representatives.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

AT the last meeting of the Colorado Library Association, held at Denver on April 9, Dr. J. E. Russell and Mr. R. W. Bullock, of the state university, presented some interesting and carefully compiled statistics of reading by the pupils in the various grades of the public schools. These statistics, which were represented by tables and charts, are too extensive to be given in detail, but some of the principal features may be interesting.

As to the amount of reading done, the tables show that the girls and boys are about equal, but the girls reach their maximum about one year earlier, and show a decided preference for love stories and books relating to celebrated women, while the boys in overwhelming majorities favor stories of adventure and lives of great men.

In comparing the reports from the smaller towns which have no public libraries with the larger towns it was noticed that the amount and kind of reading is relatively the same but the total is much less, and the maximum amount is reached a year later in the smaller towns.

In all cases, however, the maximum is reached at from 11 to 13 years of age, or from the sixth to the eighth grade.*

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary.*

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

THE spring meeting of the Illinois Library Association will be held at the Peoria Public Library on Thursday, May 13. The program will cover various phases of the work of a public library. The meeting will be an all-day affair, and the National Hotel has been chosen as the headquarters of the association.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street, Chicago, Ill.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Lana D. Cope, State Library, Des Moines.

ARTICLES of incorporation of the Iowa Library Association were filed with the county recorder of Polk county on April 22. This is the result of the decision reached at the last meeting of the association, when it was decided to become an independent incorporated body. As first organized, the Iowa Library Society was an adjunct of the state teachers' association, but it is believed that its independent establishment will result in increased effectiveness.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

* A synopsis of a part of Dr. Russell's investigation was given in the April (School) no. of L. J., p. 194.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

THE Massachusetts Library Club met on April 22, at the Boston Public Library, where the Barton-Ticknor room accommodated an attendance of 200. The subject for the day being "Modern methods of illustration," the walls were closely hung with drawings and prints. A large group was loaned by Houghton, Mifflin & Co.; Mr. Prang exhibited a number of beautiful lithographs in colors; from the stores of the *Youth's Companion* Mr. Sylvester displayed a number of original drawings and a very interesting set showing the stages of photographic reproduction; Mrs. Carter's paper was supplemented by the exhibition of one of the travelling libraries of pictures,* while the Public Library added a number of examples of wood-engravings, etchings, etc.

The meeting having been called to order shortly after 10 o'clock, the secretary reported that when it became known that the Dingley bill, as reported to the house, deprived libraries of the right of free importation of books, the executive committee met (on March 23), and after consultation, aided by Mr. Soule and Mr. Lane, passed resolutions of protest, which were forwarded to the senators and representatives from Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and to members of the committee on ways and means, as well as to other library organizations and to each library represented on the club roll of membership with a note urging independent action on the same lines.

Mr. Soule spoke of the special meeting of the A. L. A. at Atlantic City on April 5, expressing approval of the resolution adopted there asking for the substitution in the new bill of the provisions of the act of 1890 for the unsatisfactory modifications made in the house, and moved the following resolution, which was adopted.

"*Resolved:* That we approve the action of the executive committee in asking for a continuation in the new tariff of the privilege of free importation of books, etc., heretofore granted to libraries and other educational institutions. And that we further ask our senators and representatives in congress — on behalf of the readers and scholars who use our libraries — to restore to the free list of the proposed tariff, old books and books in foreign languages, which have been wisely and liberally exempted from duty in previous tariffs."

Miss Nina E. Browne, chairman of the committee on lists of select fiction, submitted a report of progress, in part as follows: "The letter as printed in the March L. J., asking for $10 a year for three years toward continuing the select fiction lists, was sent to 18 library clubs and associations. Answers have been received from 14. Two of these associations, the New York State Library Association and the New York Library Club, have given $20. Western Pennsylvania Library Club has had no meeting, but

* Catalogs of the reproductions used can be obtained by applying to Mrs. H. J. Carter, Prang Educational Co., Boston.

the president, W. M. Stevenson, writes, 'I would rather pay $10 out of my book fund than see the plan fail. To be reasonably sure that one is selecting good books is worth the value of many books.' Michigan Library Association will give $10 for 20 copies to be sent to that number of Michigan libraries to be hereafter designated. Central California and Minnesota will endeavor to obtain subscriptions. Of the others, some have no money, the rest do not have a meeting till next fall or winter." The report was accepted and the committee continued.

Business being thus ended, Mr. Putnam spoke briefly about the subject of the day, and upon the services rendered to libraries and to all who valued honest bookmaking, by the late H. O. Houghton. Mr. Winthrop S. Scudder, of the Riverside Press, then spoke upon the various forms of reproduction of the work of artists for publication in books, such as line relief, wood-engraving, steel-engraving, etching, mezzotint, half-tone, photogravure, etc., illustrating the details by specimens of plates, and prints in various stages, and by use of the blackboard. It was also shown how, by use of a pocket magnifying glass, and by consideration of the surface of the paper, the results of the different processes can be identified. Mr. Scudder spoke also of the improvement in half-tones resulting from retouching with the graver, and praised the work done by Mr. George Andrew, Jr., in this line. Mr. Scudder carefully avoided touching upon the reproduction of color, but it would be a pity not to call attention to the delicate work recently done at the Press in the illustrated edition of Thoreau's "Cape Cod."

Mr. Louis Prang read a paper on color lithography, giving a full account of the processes and difficulties of the art, drawing upon his own vast experience for illustrative material, and speaking with an enthusiasm and delight in his work which were charming. The high-water mark of achievement in the art has been attained in the plates made by Mr. Prang for the catalog of the collection of ceramics gathered by Mr. W. T. Walters, of Baltimore. 500 copies are struck off, and if all are sold at the price asked, $500, the cost of the work would lack a large amount of being met. Numerous plates from this work were shown, including one of the "peach-blow" vase. Mr. Prang also exhibited one of the books of proofs, formed in the course of reproducing a single vase, which when unfolded reached nearly across the width of the room. In simple lithography Mr. Prang gave high praise to the work of Mr. De Camp, and showed his portraits of Lincoln and Webster, remarkable for strength and delicacy. Mr. Prang believes that the revival of the art which is now in progress in England, France, and Germany, will reach these shores, and that within 10 years we shall see the stone occupy here again a favored place for reproduction in simple black and white.

Mrs. Hicks being unable to attend, Mrs. H. J. Carter, her associate in the Prang Educational Co., attended in her stead and read a paper upon travelling libraries of pictures, describing the first beginnings of this work and the wide possibilities it offers. It may be said in passing that sets of pictures for loaning were prepared in Boston 10 or 12 years ago by Miss Hale and widely circulated.

A vote of thanks to those who had contributed to make the meeting helpful and pleasant was moved and passed, and the meeting adjourned shortly before 1 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m. three "long cars," more or less comfortably filled, left Copley Square for Riverside, and when the party appeared before the Press it was proved to be 141 strong. Undismayed, our efficient hosts divided the horde (the word is used in a purely ethnological sense) into groups of 12 or 15, and provided each group with a leader. In this manner we inspected every department of the Press in comfort, and everybody saw everything, from the typesetting machine to that which makes "publishers' bindings"; and everywhere we met "the dictionary" and followed it through its stages, even to the affixing of those aggravating insets intended, as I have been told, to facilitate reference. And when our eight or nine groups were most thoroughly involved in the complexities of the establishment, it was a pleasure to see the alacrity with which the fire brigade responded to a trial call and "got a stream on to" certain observant urchins.

Even as I close this report there comes to me a pleasant memento of this visit entitled: "A brief account | of | the Atlantic Monthly. | This is an advance copy printed especially | for the members of the Massachusetts | Library Club, and presented with the | compliments of the publishers | Houghton, Mifflin & Co. | 4 Park St., Boston, Mass. | " 8°, pp. 7. Collectors of the 21st century may take notice.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* J: B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.
*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

THE usual western meeting of the association will be held at Rochester, N. Y., in the common council chambers of the city hall, on Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15. The following program has been prepared:

*Friday*, 2:30 *p.m.:*

Address of welcome. — Dr. E. M. Moore, president of trustees of University of Rochester.

President's address. — A. L. Peck, Gloversville Free Library.

Library situation in west central New York.— W. R. Eastman, New York State Library.

Village libraries:

Can the average village afford a public library? — H. K. Armstrong, president Penn Yan Public Library.

Ways and means of library support. — Mrs. A. M. Dean, trustee Montour Falls Free Library.

State aid to libraries. — Melvil Dewey, secretary University of the State of New York.

Value of a trained librarian in a small library. — Julia A. Hopkins, reference librarian Reynolds library, Rochester.

Discussion.

Business.

*Friday*, 8 *p.m.*

City libraries:

What a public library may do for a large city. — W: H. Brett, Cleveland Public Library.

The Rochester libraries. — Prof. W: C. Morey, University of Rochester.

Discussion. — J. N. Larned, superintendent Buffalo Library; Milton Noyes, superintendent of schools, Rochester; Melvil Dewey, secretary University of the State of New York; Rev. W: R. Taylor, D.D., Rochester; Prof. Howard Osgood, Rochester Theological Seminary.

*Saturday*, 9 *a.m.*

Study clubs and reading circles in their relation to public libraries. — Myrtilla Avery, N. Y. State Library, chairman library committee N. Y. State Federation of Women's Clubs.

Discussion.

Questions and answers.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.
*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton,
*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.
*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.
*Secretary-Treasurer:* W: R. Watson, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.
*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.
*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.
*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.
*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

REV. S. E. LATHROP, of Ashland, has been elected superintendent of the North Wisconsin Travelling Library Association, and will have charge of the distribution of the libraries sent out. 10 new libraries have recently been put in operation in counties which have not hitherto been reached.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.
*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

"THE modern short story" was the subject of a symposium at the meeting of the Round Table on Friday evening, April 30. A paper on "The development of the short story in France, England, and America," was read by Miss Stearns, followed by short talks on Poe, by Miss Van Valkenburg; Daudet, Miss Blend; Kipling, Miss Corbitt; Bret Harte, Miss Dousman; Bunner, Miss Fisher; Mary E. Wilkins, Miss Hornor; Turgenief, Miss Kulzick.

The Round Table has recently been the recipient of a set of cups and saucers from Mrs. Edwin Pierce, Boston; cake plate, Miss Mae

Schreiber, Milwaukee; a book of foreign views taken by F. W. Faxon, Boston; and a veritable round table, seating 15, from Miss L. E. Stearns.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* T. W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

THE annual meeting of the New York Library Club was held at the library of the Railroad Men's Branch of the Y. M. C. A., on April 22. The date was changed to make possible the attendance of the vice-director and students of the New York State Library School. About 200 persons were present. The executive committee reported that it recommended the appropriation by the club of $25 for the Poole Memorial Fund; the report was adopted. Mr. Bostwick, of the New York Free Circulating Library, reported on behalf of the committee on the Dingley bill, that no further action had been taken by the committee, but that he had sent from the various branches of the Free Circulating Library petitions containing several thousand signatures to Senator Platt, who had replied expressing himself in sympathy with the movement.

The program consisted of a discussion of the subject, "The organization and management of library staffs." The first paper was by Mr. Wilberforce Eames, Lenox librarian of the New York Public Library, giving an account of the organization of the staff of the Public Library in the Astor and Lenox buildings. The work, he said, has been divided for the present into five main departments: 1, the executive department; 2, the catalog department; 3, the shelf department; 4, the readers' department; and 5, the periodical department. The director of the library is the chief of the executive department, which has charge of all matters pertaining to the appointment, assignment to duty and payment of the staff and employes, the selection and purchase of books and supplies, acknowledgment of gifts, exchange of books, printing, etc. The executive department consists of a business superintendent and two librarians, subject to the director. Of the two librarians, one has charge of the books and exhibits at the Lenox and the other has special duties at the Astor. The catalog department, organized under a chief who reports to the director, has charge of the classification and cataloging of all accessions. About 20 persons are employed as catalogers and copyists in this department at the Astor building and eight at the Lenox. The shelf department records the books sent from the catalog department in the accession-books, has charge of the shelf lists, and of the binding. This department also has charge of the reclassification on the shelves, by which a relative or movable system is being gradually substituted for the fixed system. Four persons are employed as assistants in this department at the Astor and three persons at the Lenox building. The readers' department has charge of the reading-rooms and the reference work. 15 persons are employed as assistants, attendants, and runners at the Astor building, and the assistant librarian and two assistants at the Lenox building. The periodical department is under one chief at the Astor building. The total number of the payroll is 75. The regular working hours are from nine in the morning to five in the afternoon, with a half day off every second week throughout the year, and also three weeks vacation in the summer. Discipline and rules are of course necessary, said Mr. Eames in conclusion, but right understanding and harmony can best be attained by free discussion between chief and staff, the benefit of which is mutual.

The next paper on the program, by Mr. F. P. Hill, of Newark, was read by Miss Winser, assistant librarian at the Newark Public Library, and was followed by papers on the same subject by Miss Hitchler, of the New York Free Circulating Library, and Miss Davis, of Pratt Institute. The subject was treated from several different points of view: Mr. Hill gave the practical side of staff organization, duties, and responsibilities, Miss Hitchler spoke of the personal relations between librarian and staff, and Miss Davis set forth a theory of library administration. An informal discussion followed the papers, in which Miss Cutler, Dr. Leipziger, and Miss Hull took part. Dr. Leipziger expressed himself in favor of a seven-hour day.

Three new members were elected — Miss Eleanor E. Davie, of the educational department of Harper & Brothers, Mrs. R. J. Cross, trustee of the New York Free Circulating Library, and Harry M. Lydenberg, of the Lenox Library. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of N. Y. Free Circulating Library; 1st Vice-president, Wilberforce Eames, Lenox librarian; 2d Vice-president, Miss Harriet B. Prescott, Columbia College Library; Secretary, Thomas W. Idle, Columbia University Library; Treasurer, Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE, *Secretary.*

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 22d regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held March 31, 1897, in the Temple of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. The meeting was semi-social, the director and students of the Pratt Institute Library School being present upon invitation. The ladies of the executive committee, Misses A. R. Hasse, J. A. Clark, and M. A. Gilkey, aided by Mr. W. L. Boyden, acted as hosts, and the pleasure experienced by all who were present gave proof how admirably they performed their duties.

Mr. A. R. Spofford greeted the guests on the part of the association, extending to them a welcome to the capital. Then as a librarian he called attention to the work and collections of the various governmental bureaus, giving a brief *résumé* of their functions and labors. He also described the present condition of the national library and its new building and hinted at the hopes for its future. Mr. Spofford spoke earnestly of the calling of the librarian and avowed his conviction that the vocation is one of the noblest professions in the world.

Mr. N. P. Scudder's address upon "The disadvantages of Roman numerals in library work" was an earnest appeal to librarians to use their influence to do away with this cumbersome method of enumeration. He cited many examples where mistakes, and consequent loss of time, had been brought about by the use of Roman rather than Arabic numbers.

Remarks on this paper were made by Miss Clarke, Mr. Crandall, and Mr. Cutter, discouraging the use of the Roman figures on the backs of volumes. Dr. Adler maintained that librarians should not get into the habit of desiring to have things made too easy for them by the makers of books. Mr. Spofford spoke strongly in favor of all time-saving devices and contrasted the Arabic method of writing 88 with the Roman, which the secretary does not now know how to express.

Dr. H. Carrington Bolton read a paper on the "Bibliographic work of the Smithsonian Institution, 1846–1895," which will be printed in the half-century memorial volume of the Smithsonian Institution. He gave an account of the earliest plans laid down by Joseph Henry, first secretary of the institution, for fostering work in bibliography; described the labors of Professor Jewett and his scheme for a general co-operative catalog of American libraries; and enumerated the principal bibliographies published by the Smithsonian Institution in the many branches of science.

At the conclusion of the business the meeting was formally adjourned, and the balance of the evening was devoted to inspecting the library and various rooms of the Temple under the guidance of Mr. Boyden.

THE 23d regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at Columbian University, April 28; in the absence of the president, Vice-president Theodore L. Cole presided.

The election to membership of Dr. Marcus Baker and Mr. Thomas K. Gallaher, both of the Geological Survey office, was announced.

The paper of the evening was read by Miss A. R. Hasse, and entitled "Bibliographic rambles among early documents." All who accompanied Miss Hasse upon these rambles enjoyed them exceedingly, as they encountered many would-be sellers of books, who desired to fit out our government with ready-made libraries, carefully selected according to their individual tastes; and most of them knew how to cry their wares as well as some of the dealers of to-day. Her description of the burning, in 1801, of the first library owned by the government, that of the War Office, was very quaint and amusing, and made one realize that "documents" are sometimes interesting — if you can get some one else to read them for you. Dr. Adler thanked Miss Hasse in the name of her hearers, and voiced their desire in the request that she should soon give them a talk upon "Early government imprints," a subject to which she has bestowed much attention.

Dr. H. Carrington Bolton amused and interested those present by citing the changes of titles which the *Palladium* (London, 1748–1779) underwent. This annual bore during its life no less than 13 titles.

The new "Handbook" was issued at the close of the meeting. F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

HANDBOOK.

The association has issued an official "Handbook: with notes on libraries in Washington," that is of more than local interest. It is a useful little manual of the libraries of Washington as well as of the Library Association of Washington City, and its compilers have performed a public service in its preparation. It contains besides the constitution, list of officers and members of the club, and bibliography of papers and proceedings, an 18-page "Description of libraries" of the city, to which is appended a useful "index to special collections." The libraries are listed alphabetically in two divisions, 1, public libraries, 2, private libraries, and the data given comprises name of librarian, location of collection, date of organization, hours of opening and rules as to use, no. v., "specialty," if any, and word as to whether a printed catalog exists. There are 61 collections noted in the first list and 23 in the second, and the libraries listed report in all a total of 1,990,277 v. (with a yearly increase of 64,839), 772,960 pamphlets, 200,000 musical titles, 104,000 maps, and 5750 photographic negatives, war scenes, etc.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE library school which has been conducted at Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, since September, 1893, has been transferred to the University of Illinois, where the work will be continued under the same director, but along broader lines.

Notice of the new school will be found elsewhere (*see* p. 268).

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*

*PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE library school set out on its annual trip of library inspection on March 29, the journey this year being to Washington, with a visit also to the libraries of Baltimore. The party reached Washington on afternoon of the 29th and at once paid a visit to the Free Circulating Library. On Tuesday morning the new Congressional Library was explored and admired; the old Congressional Library was inspected

under Mr. Spofford's personal guidance, and the capitol also was visited. The afternoon was spent at Arlington, and in the evening the school was welcomed at the Naval Observatory, where the librarian not only displayed the fine astronomical collection but procured for the visitors a view through the 26-inch telescope, the third largest in the country. Wednesday was devoted in the morning to visiting the libraries of the Agricultural Department, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Surgeon-General's office; in the afternoon the library of the Superintendent of Documents; and in the evening the school attended the meeting of the Washington Library Association, which was followed by a reception in honor of the visitors. Thursday was spent at Mount Vernon, and it was found possible to make brief visits to the libraries of the War, Navy, and State departments, as well as the Riggs Memorial Library of the Jesuit College at Georgetown, before leaving Washington on Friday for Baltimore, where a morning visit was made to Johns Hopkins University. In the afternoon the Enoch Pratt Free Library and two of its branches were visited, while on Saturday morning Peabody Institute was inspected, and time was found for a brief examination of the Walters collection before train time. The party reached New York on Tuesday afternoon, having again proved the truism that library tourists are able to do more and see more within a given time than any other class of travellers.

### *NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

#### CRITICAL REVIEWS USED IN SELECTING CURRENT LITERATURE.

*Foreign.*

Academy.
Athenæum.
Cosmopolis.
Economic journal.
Economic review.
Edinburgh review.
English historical review.
Knowledge.
Nature.
Nineteenth century.
Revue des deux mondes.
Saturday review.
Spectator.
Spectator supplement.
Westminster review.

*American.*

American historical review.
American journal of psychology.
American journal of sociology.
American journal of theology.
Atlantic.
Bookman.
Book news.
Catholic world.
Cosmopolitan.
Critic.
Dial.
Educational review.
Franklin institute journal.
Harper's monthly.
Harper's weekly.
International journal of ethics.
Journal of folk lore.
Journal of political economy.
Literary world.
Nation.
New world.
Outlook.
Poet lore.
Political science quarterly.
Popular science monthly.
Psychological review.
Quarterly journal of economics.
Review of reviews.
Science.
Sun.
Times.
Tribune.
Yale review.

This list has been made up after considerable experiment. I would be glad to know the experience of others in using these reviews, and titles of others that are found useful.

MARY S. CUTLER.

#### NEW YORK VISIT.

THE annual library visit of the school was made this year to the libraries of New York and vicinity, April 13–23. The party numbered 29 students and was in charge of Miss Cutler. The itinerary included visits to Vassar College Library, Poughkeepsie; the Mount Vernon Public Library; the Newark Public Library; the Brooklyn Library, Y. M. C. A., and Pratt Institute libraries of Brooklyn: and the various libraries of New York City. The annual meeting of the New York Library Club was also attended by the entire party.

### *UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE University of Illinois has adopted the library school now conducted at Armour Institute of Technology.

The two years of technical work will rank as junior and senior, and will be given only to those who have received credit for two years of college work. There will be no special examination for the library course, but candidates must matriculate in the university, where they will receive rank according to their qualifications. Freshmen and sophomores who register for the library course will take reference work and general lectures in connection with their college studies.

Tuition is free to residents and non-residents of the state. The matriculation fee of $10 is good for the entire course. The fees each year amount to $22.50.

The students will occupy beautiful classrooms in the magnificent new library building on the campus. This building, which will be dedicated in June with an address by Mr. Melvil Dewey, is considered the finest state building in Illinois with the exception of the capitol at Springfield.

The library now numbers over 30,000 v. and 6000 pamphlets, and there is a generous appropriation for new books, so that the classes will not lack practical work. The transfer of the school is considered advantageous in every way.

Inquiries for information should be addressed to the registrar, University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill. KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*

### *WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.*

THE summer school of library science which was conducted under the charge of the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1895 and 1896 will be made permanent. This year it will be under the charge of Miss Cornelia Marvin, instructor in reference work and bibliography in the school of library science of Armour Institute. The school will open July 5 and close August 13. Circulars of information may be obtained from Miss Cornelia Marvin, Armour Institute, Chicago, or of Dr. E. A. Birge or F. A. Hutchins, Madison, Wis.

## Reviews.

AMERICAN CATALOGUE, founded by F: Leypoldt, 1890–1895: books recorded (including reprints and importations), July 1, 1890–June 30, 1895; comp. under the editorial direction of R: R. Bowker. 1, Author-and-title alphabet; 2, Subject alphabet, etc. N. Y., Office of the *Publishers' Weekly*, 1896. 8+497+503+6–63+142 p. Q. $12.50; $15.

With each succeeding volume of the American Catalogue the feeling has grown and strengthened that in this work is being developed quite the most important bibliographical contribution, not alone in the United States, but in the world of literature. Had this recognition not been already in the mind of the writer, the last and just issued volume, covering the period 1890–1895, would have forced the thought upon him. Nowhere else in the world is there a list of current books of one-half (and but for moderation of statement, we should write, one-quarter) the completeness or importance. The comparison, indeed, is all the more in favor of the present work in that it includes not merely the literature of a great book-producing nation but also a very material percentage of British books, republished in this country. Furthermore our large foreign population, to say nothing of a mark of craving for international cultivation inherent in our people, leads to the publication of a very unusual number of works in foreign tongues, the United States probably far exceeding any other country in the world in this respect. This necessarily adds a very distinct labor to the compilers and demands of them a special knowledge not usually required by the work in similar lines in other countries. As a fact, the American Catalogue ranks so pre-eminently above the attempted lists of contemporary books of Great Britain, France, and Germany, that they cannot be even used for comparison, and the only way to fairly test the last issue is to compare it with the previous volumes of the series, in which the books of 1876–1890 were cataloged and described.

It is only 12 years since the first supplement to the American Catalogue was issued, but the contrast between the volume for 1876–1884 and that just completed is very striking, and illustrates not alone the mere growth of publishing in that period, but even more, the great advance made in the bibliographical system of which these volumes are appropriately termed the crown. With each issue the tests applied reveal a greater and greater inclusiveness, and though the compilers, through their spokesman, Mr. Bowker, distinctly disclaim, in the preface, bibliographical completeness, such a disavowal seems scarcely called for. Of course there are omissions, as there always must be in bibliography, for no possible system or expenditure could discover and catalog the book product of an active-minded nation in one work; and so, since in this sense there never can be bibliographical completeness, it hardly seems necessary to speak of a natural limitation as a defect. What Mr. Johnson said of the strawberry inevitably comes to mind, and we can only conclude that while as an abstract possibility, there might be a fuller and better list, we shall hold that the present work, like the strawberry, is the best to be had, short of the slow natural evolution which has even improved that berry since Mr. Johnson so graphically described it.

Comparing the first and last volumes of the set, the improvements come out in very sharp relief. The earliest, though containing the publications of nine years, is a book of some 700 pages; the latest, covering a period of five years, contains approximately 900. In the former, 17 pages are needed for a list of government documents; in the latter 60 pages are devoted to the same class. The publications of societies filled three pages in the initial volume, they require 28 in the present one. No attempt was made in the pioneer catalog to note state publications; its successor gives 38 pages to the subject, making a list of really great importance, because, next to privately printed brochures, which from their very nature are beyond the ken of the most lynx-eyed bibliographer, the local publications are the most buried and illusive of books. The success with which these state documents have been included inspires the hope, rather than the expectation, that in some way a means will be eventually evolved by which those of municipalities will be included as well.

The general accuracy of the work makes a truly praiseworthy showing. The whole first section was run through, and the title of each book with which the writer was familiar was carefully scanned. Yet out of the several hundred entries thus tested, not one single error of fact, nor a single typographical error was detected. This, to us, who have proved in the past the utter hopelessness of correct bibliographical printing, is little short of the marvellous, and cannot be too highly commended.

P. L. F.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS: issued at quarterly intervals. v. 1, no. 1, March, 1897: A bibliography of municipal administration and city conditions, by Robert C. Brooks. New York, Reform Club, committee on municipal administration. 10 + 224 p. O. 50 c.

Bibliography becomes often an interesting index to the trend of public affairs, as is again suggested by the appearance of a bibliography of municipal administration and city conditions, answering to the new interest in municipal affairs which has come with the plans for Greater New York and "greater" cities elsewhere. The present list in its subject entry of "Bibliographies on municipal government and related topics" (p. 13) schedules a dozen works in which bibliographical lists on municipal subjects are included, but no such bibliography as the present has hitherto been projected. The Reform Club, through its committee on municipal administration, and the compiler of this bibliog-

raphy, Mr. Robert C. Brooks, are entitled to the credit of a good piece of work in an important field. The bibliography is in two parts, a "subject index" of 138 pages and an "author list" of 86 pages, prefaced by a list of periodicals and abbreviations and a list of principal topics in the subject index, which last, though theoretically unnecessary, is practically useful. The author list includes 2300 separate titles, from 1400 authors, 1900 entries covering American and English books, about 150 in French, 120 in German, 80 in Italian, and 50 in Spanish. 1000 anonymous books are also included in the subject division, and the entire bibliography contains some 6000 entries. No less than 92 periodicals are cited, Poole's Index and the "Annual literary index" having been freely utilized.

The bibliography is remarkably comprehensive and approximately complete, with the important exception that no record is made of city reports, such as those of the mayor, commissioners of public works, etc., etc., of the several cities, an important class of publication absolutely uncataloged, and which should have been included at least in some general way in such a bibliography as this. On the other hand, the official publications of New York state, of Massachusetts, etc., bearing on municipal questions have careful entry. Although it has not been generally attempted to bring in the publications of 1897, the list is well up to date, on, for instance, the Greater New York charter, the 18 entries on Greater New York, including the charter draft as printed in January. The entries as to municipal libraries are unsatisfactory — owing in good part to the lack of a general index to the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which it is to be hoped will be remedied within the present year. There is some unnecessary duplication of full entries where cross-references might serve the purpose, as in the entries on municipal lighting under Lighting (p. 53), and under Municipal ownership (p. 68), and in Settlements, under New York state (p. 81), and under Settlement movement (p. 115). In the subject entries the use of heavy-faced type both for the subject entry and for the title, where there is only one entry on the subject, is confusing and undesirable. The use of quotes for all titles is also unnecessary. Occasionally the compiler has prefaced Hon. and Mr. to authors' names, doubtless by oversight, as most authors' names are given without such meaningless prefaces, and a few like slips of carelessness are evident, as (p. 104) in the last entry under Rapid transit, where the year of publication referred to is not given. These are technical criticisms of a minor sort, and the fact that there are no more than these to be made suggests how good is the bibliography, especially for a first essay in this direction. In all libraries and to all students of municipal government or of government in general, this bibliography will be of real usefulness, and its editor and publishers should be awarded the thanks of the community. R. R. B.

UNITED STATES. 54th Congress, 1st session, December 2, 1895 – June 11, 1896. Index to the subjects of the documents and reports and to the committees, senators, and representatives presenting them [being the "consolidated index" provided for by the act of January 12, 1895]; compiled under the direction of the Superintendent of Documents. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1897. 236 p. O.

This volume is the "consolidated index" provided for in the public documents act of 1895. It takes the place of the six multiplex and multiplied indexes, one of which was to be found, under previous provisions of law, in each volume of all octavo congressional documents, whether senate executive, miscellaneous, or committee reports, or house executive, miscellaneous, or committee reports. One effect of this complicated system was to greatly increase the cost, and another was to make exasperating delay, in all congressional issues. This single book of 236 pages combines in one index, on one plan, the preceding six indexes and alongside the set, or in one of the bound volumes of congressional documents of the 54th Congress, first session, is vastly more convenient and informing at a small fraction of the previous expense. In itself it is proof of the economy practicable in an improved system of government publications — a system which requires chiefly the passage of Mr. Crandall's supplementary bill and the retention of Mr. Crandall in office to make it in most respects what it should be. This index is an index simply, and it does not take the place of the catalog of public documents (including departmental as well as congressional) which is the "comprehensive index" provided for in the act, the initial volume of which, for the 53d Congress, was welcomed by the library profession last year. The index covers the briefest practicable reference to the several congressional volumes and parts of volumes, entered under subjects, under committee, and under the individual congressman responsible for the document. It is, of course, not so good as the catalog, but it is infinitely better than the indexes hitherto.

Mr. Crandall's preface of four pages, like his prefaces generally, is most interesting reading, and very suggestive. He reports that this "guide post" or "indicator" covers 1140 senate and 2290 house committee reports, and 315 senate and 429 house documents, in all 4174 documents, which will be found in 119 volumes — 15 of senate documents, 88 of house documents, 6 of senate reports, and 10 of house reports, these divisions, under the present law, taking the place of the six complex and useless divisions of the previous system. A schedule of volumes showing the relations and volume numbering of the set is appended. The volume is another proof of Mr. Crandall's public service. R. R. B.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

The *Quarterly Book Review*, published by Montgomery Ward & Co., of Chicago, begins its first volume with the issue for April, 1897. It is proposed to devote considerable space to library matters in the publication, and this first number has several articles on library topics. Among them is a short paper on "Libraries for the farmer," by Dr. G. E. Wire, and a review of Mr. Stevenson's paper on "Weeding out fiction" in the March L. J., by George Iles. The department of "library notes" is largely composed of items from the Denver P. L. "Handbook," *Public Libraries*, and the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The price of the *Review* is 25 c. a year.

### LOCAL.

*Atlantic City, N. J.* On April 12 a resolution favorable to a free library in Atlantic City was adopted by a unanimous vote of the city council. The city solicitor is to arrange the means of carrying the plan into effect. This action is a gratifying result of the joint meeting of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania library clubs, held in Atlantic City, April 5–6, with a view to arousing public interest in the matter of a free library.

*Baltimore, Enoch Pratt F. L.* Hon. James A. Gary, Postmaster-General, was recently elected president of the board of trustees of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, to succeed Mr. Pratt in that office. Mr. Gary is one of the original trustees appointed by Mr. Pratt, and for a number of years he has been vice-president of the board. He had long been one of Mr. Pratt's most intimate friends, and in his will the latter appointed him executor of his estate. The vacancy caused in the board of trustees by Mr. Pratt's death was filled at a recent meeting by the election of President Daniel C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University.

*Boston P. L.* A noteworthy exhibition of book-plates, fine bindings, and illustrations relating to industrial art, was opened to the public in the Barton-Ticknor room of the library on April 3. The bindings shown were especially interesting, including examples of the work of most of the leading foreign and American binders, and they embraced several private loan collections as well as the library's own treasures in that line. The display of books and illustrations dealing with industrial art was intended to supplement the Arts and Crafts exhibition held in Copley Hall.

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* The final art exhibition of the season was opened in the art gallery of the library building on April 24. It is an amateur exhibit of oils and water-colors, mostly from local artists, and will continue from April 24 to June 5.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* A bill in the interest of the association was introduced into the legislature on April 14 by Assemblyman Brennan; it provides that the city of Brooklyn shall raise by bond $10,000 to meet the expenses of the public library in that city during 1897.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Union for Christian Work L.* (30th rpt., 1896.) Added 3623; total 36,000. Issued, home use 188,837 (fict. 150,117), an increase of over 20,000 over the previous year; visitors to reading-room "over 20.000." New registration 2344; total registration 20,859. The receipts for the year were $11,169.33, and the treasurer reports a cash balance of $1950.80 and a reserve endowment fund of $2972.98.

"With our large circulation, all books but 12 have been returned or paid for. The average cost of circulation, all expenses included, has been less than three cents per volume — a figure much too low, as we have to economize in directions where we ought to be more liberal." During the year 49,957 books were repaired and 12,880 were covered at the library.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) L.* (61st rpt. — year ending Jan. 30, '97.) Added 4554; total 84,773. Issued, home use 142,659 (fict. .6067 %, juv. fict. .1029 %); lib. use 45,642. Receipts (library account) $20,350.29; expenses $19,709.69.

"The most important and interesting incident of the year was the opening of the children's reading-room, which occurred near the end of June." A bright and interesting report on this room is given by Miss Fernald, and Mr. Larned says that it "has more than realized expectations as to the influence exerted from it." This influence, Miss Fernald states, is in many cases very marked: "Rough boys have grown orderly and listless ones have begun to read. It is suggestive to note the difference between our youngest children and their older brothers and sisters. The little ones bring eager interest to bear on every picture, and learn quickly to take care of the books. They surely will not grow up to that mental laziness which characterizes many of the older ones."

The printing of the third part of the finding list of the library was finished in the summer, and, in view of the free opening of the library, there is strong need of new editions of parts one and two.

The greater part of the report is devoted to a full presentment of the successive steps in the reorganization of the library as a free public institution, supported by city appropriation.

*Chelsea, Mass. Fitz P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 757; total 15,522. Issued, home use 75,377 (fict. 58.48 %, juv. 26.10 %, periodicals 2.14 %); reading-room use 7569; Sunday attendance 506. New registration 554; total cards in use 3246.

"The percentage of circulation of books by this library exceeds that of any public library in the state except Boston proper."

*Chicago, Ill.* On March 25 ex-Governor Altgeld issued for circulation throughout the state a letter planning the establishment of an "Economic Circulating Library," to be made up "of the latest and best standard books upon the financial question, and on such economic

questions as directly affect the people." It is proposed to furnish as a beginning 20 books, each collection to be under control of a local political body, and in charge of "some young person" who should keep records of issue and return, and report once a month to the head librarian in Chicago. Each collection, it is estimated, will cost $2, and subscriptions to the plan are asked from all interested.

*Decatur (Ill.) F. L.* On May 1 the library moved into its new quarters on the fifth floor of the Powers block. In its new home, which is well lighted and ventilated, the public will have the use of two study-rooms, a convenience greatly needed for some time. The library floor is reached by two elevators, and will be open to the public June 1.

*La Porte (Ind.) City P. L.* The opening and dedication of the library in its new building occurred on the evening of April 23. A large audience was present, and the exercises included an interesting series of five-minute talks, called "Library echoes," by six speakers, among them Miss M. E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*. The library is the result of the action taken by the La Porte Library Association on June 3, 1896, when it was voted to turn the building and books over to the city. The building was practically rebuilt at a cost of about $5500, and is now admirably equipped for its work. The library contains about 8000 v. Miss Jennie B. Jessup is librarian.

*Lisbon, O. Lepper L. A.* The trustees of the association on April 9 selected the site for the library building. In addition to the $10,000 given for the library by Miss Virginia Lepper, of Cleveland, $5000 has been contributed by the citizens of Lisbon.

*Lowell (Mass.) City L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1573; total 55,398; lost 39. Issued 146,616 (fict. .669 %), of which 18,111 were for ref. use. New registration 2054; total registration 13,266. Receipts $18,811.52; expenses $17,-129.52.

Several interesting and successful exhibitions of photographs and plates were held during the year.

*Lynchburg, Va.* On petition of a number of citizens of Lynchburg the circuit court on Feb. 13 granted a charter to the Lynchburg Public Library. The library is for the white people of the city.

*Minnesota, lib. legislation in.* Besides the defeated travelling library bill, two other measures regarding libraries were brought up in the state legislature, both of which were passed. These were: 1, a bill providing that a constitutional amendment be submitted at the next election, giving to women the right to vote for library directors and to hold the office of director, a woman thus having the same rights in the library question as she now has on schools in the state; 2, a bill authorizing the councils of incorporated cities and villages to submit to vote propositions for the issue of bonds to construct library buildings.

*New York F. C. L.* The library has never had so much new work on hand at one time as at present. Early in May the Riverside Library, on West 69th street, will become a branch of the larger institution, with increased facilities and a fine new library-room. A month later a new branch, to be called the Yorkville branch, will be opened at 1523 Second avenue, corner of 79th street. These will be respectively the eighth and ninth branches of the library. The Muhlenberg branch, since its removal to its new quarters on Sixth avenue, opposite O'Neill's store, has nearly doubled its circulation. The Bloomingdale branch at 100th street and Amsterdam avenue, opened last June, now circulates 10,000 books a month. A travelling library department has been established, to have entire charge of the work of sending books in boxes to schools, clubs, and other centres of distribution. Any responsible person can obtain the privileges of this department, which has temporary quarters at the Bruce branch, 226 West 42d street. It is expected that ultimately this department will require separate quarters and a large staff of assistants. The two-book system has been extended to four branches and will shortly be introduced into two more. The two newest branches, mentioned above, will be operated on the open-shelf system. The library staff, which now includes about 50 persons, has recently been classified on civil-service models, and promotion from class to class is made by examination.

*New York P. L.—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* The bill, providing for the construction of a public building in Bryant Park, New York City, to be occupied by the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, which passed the assembly on March 24, was signed by Mayor Strong on April 14. It authorizes the controller to issue bonds to the amount of $2,500,000, for the erection of the library building.

The Lenox Library has set aside a special room for the use of cyclists, in which bicycle racks are arranged so that wheelmen and wheelwomen are able to lock their wheels automatically. When they desire to leave, an attendant will release the wheels from the lock.

*New York Society L.* At the annual meeting of shareholders of the library, held on April 27, it was announced that the library would probably remove to a site further uptown at as early a date as practicable.

*New York State L.* Owing to failure of the legislature to pass the sum required to keep the library open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., as heretofore, it has been found necessary to reduce the hours of opening from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., beginning May 1.

*New York Univ. Club L.* (Rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, '97.) Added 871; total 13,737. The report is chiefly given up to a review of the important gifts and purchases of the year.

*Northampton, Mass. Forbes L.* On April 26 an exhibition of reproductions of some of the Albertina drawings, together with colored plates and photogravures illustrating Greek sculpture and vases, was opened in the Forbes Library. The Albertina collection comprised examples of Dürer, Rembrandt, and Botticelli, and is a part of the series of reproductions, now being issued, of the masterpieces contained in the Albertina library. The Greek plates and photogravures were recently bought from the library of the late Dr. Guttmann, the New York archæologist.

*Penn Yan (N. Y.) L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 375; total 1775; issued 8719. Borrowers 724. Receipts $631.54; expenses $428.99.

*Philadelphia. Apprentices' L.* The library was opened to the public in its new home on the corner of Broad and Brandywine streets on April 8, and in the evening a largely attended reception was held, when addresses were made by Col. A. K. McClure, Robert Ellis Thompson, and John Wanamaker. The building now occupied by the library was formerly owned by the Spring Garden Unitarian Society, from which it was purchased late in 1896 for $50,000. It has been so remodelled that the outside alone resembles the structure in which services were held for more than 30 years. The entrance has been changed from the centre to the southern end of the Broad street front. On the first floor have been arranged the reading-rooms, where the daily newspapers and the current magazines are to be found. The main library is located on the second floor, leading to which a new staircase has been constructed. This staircase is in the extreme southern end of the building. The books are in entirely new cases, each capable of holding 1200 v. The rear of the main library apartment has been set aside as a reference-room. The charging-desk occupies the centre of the floor there. The only art ornamentation in this room is a bust of Benjamin Franklin.

The library, which has just completed its 76th year, had occupied its former quarters at Fifth and Arch streets for 56 years. There over 100,000 persons had registered their names, and books were issued to more than half a million readers. The purchase of the new property, the cost of alteration and of removing the books, exhausted the funds available for that purpose, and it was found necessary to raise a large sum by mortgage. The management has appealed to the friends of the library to assist in clearing it of this indebtedness and to provide means by which the scope of the library may be widely extended.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* The new building designed for the Providence Public Library is described by Franklin Clarkin under the heading "Latest public library development," in *Harper's Weekly* of April 10; it is illustrated by a view of the building, which is already familiar to readers of the JOURNAL.

*Quincy (Ill.) P. L.* On April 13 the library received from Mrs. A. C. Buckley, of Quincy, a gift of 1500 v. of books in the German language. This addition brings the total volumes in the library up to 21,378.

*Quincy, Mass. Thomas Crane P. L.* (26th rpt., 1896.) Added 1800; total not given. Issued 72,345 (fict. 35 %, juv. fict. 21.6 %, periodicals 24.2 %). New registration 713; total registration 13,700.

The circulation has increased about 2000 during the year, and of the 72,345 v. issued 3823 were delivered to the schools.

*Reading (Pa.) L.* An important public meeting was held at Reading on Friday, April 9, under the auspices of the High School Alumni Association. It was to develop the movement in Reading for the establishment of a free library, and fortunately the nucleus of such a library is already existing. The Reading Library has a collection of 5000 v., and an enthusiastic helper in Mr. Durham, who acts as honorary librarian. The building could be made a most admirable free library, and assurances have been given by the mayor and others of their cordial sympathy. The Reading Medical Association have also offered to turn over to the free library, when established, their growing collection of books if a special alcove can be provided, with a promise that their funds shall be devoted to the increase of the works relating to the medical profession.

Over 100 citizens attended the meeting, and addresses in answer to the question, "Should Reading have a free public library?" were given to an interested audience. The first speaker was Mr. John Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia, who argued that if a state was bound to provide schools, hospitals, and asylums, the municipal authorities of every city and town were bound to co-operate with the state in providing what would best produce a sound mind in a sound body. He illustrated how a big library could be developed from small means by the history of the establishment and growth of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and gave from the last report of that library such statistics as proved how much could be done even though the beginnings might be small.

The other speakers followed in a most cordial spirit. Dr. Henry Landis, president of the Reading Medical Association, gave the best proof of his cordial desire to help by proposing to amalgamate the Medical Library with the desired Reading Free Library. Mr. William McCormick, editor of the Reading *Herald*, urged that it was futile to complain of boys and girls reading dime novels and Bertha M. Clay if parents and guardians contented themselves with reproaching them with the subject-matter of their reading but at the same time provided nothing better by way of substitution. The last speaker was Mr. Robert P. Schick, a member of the bar and ex-president of the alumni association. He showed how under recent Pennsylvania legislation even by such a small sum as one-quarter of a mill on the taxable property of the city the sum of $9000 a year could be raised for a free library. He added

that this power was conferred upon the authorities of the school boards, and that he refused to believe that any person who was properly approached would hesitate for one second to accede to the payment of 25 cents on $1000 of taxable property for the establishment of a library, when the persons who were familiar with the subject must know that hardly any other expenditure of taxes could be quoted by which so much permanent good could be achieved, and none in which so much could be accomplished at so small a rate.

*Utica (N. Y.) P. L.* The library's set of city charters was completed on April 15 in a rather remarkable manner. The charter of 1856 had long been needed to complete the series, but no special effort to secure it had been made, as it was thought that it would eventually be found among some gift of public or municipal documents. This belief has now been fulfilled in an unexpected way. In an ash-barrel in the rear of the local Y. M. C. A. building one of the library readers saw a number of books and pamphlets dumped in promiscuously with other rubbish. With the instinct of the true book-lover he picked out the volumes, brushed off the dirt and examined them. They were old city and state reports, of no apparent interest or use, but the finder pried around in the barrel, accumulated an armful of the books, and carried them to the library, where they were received by the librarian, who at once despatched a boy to the ash-barrel to bring in any remaining books. Those that were not damaged by rain and abuse were put aside for examination, and one of the first taken up proved to be a copy of the city charter of 1856, in good condition. In all about 40 volumes were rescued, 28 of which were found useful to fill gaps in the library's series; they included reports of the adjutant-general, the railroad commission, military codes, etc. The ash-barrel episode was given considerable space in the local papers, and Miss Underhill writes that it has already served to bring the library several small gifts of magazines and odd volumes.

*Walla Walla, Wash.* On April 20 the city council passed a resolution to establish a free circulating library in the city.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* The trial of Philip McElhone, who is charged, together with Lewis McK. Turner, with stealing valuable historical documents from the Library of Congress, as already noted in these columns (L. J., March, p. 160), was begun on April 23. It was decided that both men should be tried separately and that Turner's trial should be deferred until after McElhone's. The most important development in the trial came on April 27, when Turner turned state's evidence and confessed that he and McElhone had made arrangements to procure and dispose of the documents. Objection was made to the evidence on the ground that Turner was a co-defendant, but it was admitted and Turner gave elaborate details of the methods pursued. McElhone was found guilty on April 30, when notice of a motion for a new trial was given; he was released on $3000 bond.

*Weymouth, Mass. Tufts L.* (18th rpt., 1896.) Added 894; total 17,874. Issued, home use 68,627 (fict. 69 %, periodicals 7.10 %), of which 35,215 were issued through the five delivery stations. Receipts $3422.27; expenses $3419.97.

A new registration of borrowers was begun April 15, and 2147 names were recorded at the end of the year.

*Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L.* (37th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '96.) Added 5061; total 108,489. Issued, home use 192,559 (on teachers' cards 14,666, on school cards 19,261); ref. use 90,099; Sunday use 2260; holiday use 764. New registration 2634; total registration 22,783. Receipts $38,559.10; expenses $32,065.75.

"During the 40 weeks of the school year (five days to a week) 1714 volumes of books belonging to the library were in use, on the average, daily, by the teachers and scholars under the immediate supervision of teachers."

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Ansonia (Ct.) P. L.* The nucleus of an endowment fund for the library was created on March 30, when a check for $1000 was received from Miss Olivia E. P. Stokes, of New York, the only condition being that the sum should be invested in such securities as are provided by the state law for trust funds.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* On April 20 the library received from August Uihlein, of Milwaukee, a check for $5000, to be devoted to the purchase of desirable books. The gift, which was wholly unexpected and entirely informal, was made by Mr. Uihlein as a token of his interest in and appreciation of the library, and also in honor of the 25th anniversary of his wedding.

*Philadelphia.* By the will of Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer, of Philadelphia, admitted to probate on April 7, the sum of $5000 was bequeathed to the Philadelphia Library Co., and $10,000 was left to the Mercantile Library of Philadelphia.

*Tomahawk, Wis.* W. A. Bradley, of Tomahawk, has made arrangements to establish a small free library in the town where he resides in northern Wisconsin. The books of this library will serve as a source of supply for a few free travelling libraries which will be sent to neighboring hamlets. Unlike most travelling libraries, these will not be formed from books set aside and kept apart from other books for that purpose. When the people of a neighboring settlement wish a library the books for one will be selected especially for them. Mr. Bradley will also subscribe for some magazines and children's periodicals, which will be sent directly to the travelling library stations and will circulate in the same manner as the books.

## Librarians.

BOLTON, Charles Knowles, librarian of the Brookline Public Library, has just published "Brookline: the history of a favored town," in which he tells the story of the Boston suburb from its earliest times to the present day. Mr. Bolton has been actively interested in the collection and preservation of materials of local history throughout his connection with the Brookline library, and the present volume shows the good use to which he has put this interest.

COLLINS, D. Lansing, has been appointed reference librarian of Princeton University Library.

CUTLER, Miss Mary S. The engagement is announced of Miss Mary Salome Cutler, vice-director of the New York State Library School, to Rev. Edwin Milton Fairchild, of the Educational Church Board of Albany. It is pleasant to add that Miss Cutler will continue her work with the New York State Library School, and that her adoption of the profession of matrimony — which seems recently to have become widely popular in the A. L. A. — does not mean her retirement from the library ranks.

DOOLITTLE, Miss Mary J., for 10 years librarian of the Williams Free Library of Beaver Dam, Wis., died at her home in Beaver Dam on Friday, April 2. The Williams library, with which she was so long associated and to which she gave an enthusiastic and unselfish devotion, has been long known in Wisconsin and to library people outside that state as the "model library," and was described in the Wisconsin Supplement of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, April, 1896 (21 : 182). Miss Doolittle's work in the library was always to her a labor of love, and its growth and usefulness were at once her strongest ambition and her greatest pride. One who knew her work says: "She was tenderly loved by all the children of her home town, and she watched the reading of each one with an almost maternal solicitude. She had the tact to win and hold their confidence and to lead them gradually from fair and good books to the best. She trained them to delight in unsoiled pages and the triumphs of the bookmaker's art, and the beautiful new volumes of recent purchases would come back to her for months with the covers and leaves scarcely sullied. Her library was a home for all its patrons, and the boys and girls came to it as the book-loving child to its own library." She continued her work at the library until within a few weeks of her death. "Her love for it," writes a friend in one of the local papers, "had become a passion; her plans and her ambitions were all for it, and we can easily believe that when the conviction came upon her that her life was in peril, the thought that her work at the library must end while still so unfinished was among those which gave her the sharpest pangs of sorrow. Very hardly she gave up the task. About five weeks since she accepted a vacation, to see if rest and medical treatment in another city would not benefit her fast-failing health. With one pathetic little excuse or another she prolonged the days before going; and at last, when nothing more availed, she looked about on the familiar surroundings and said, 'I will not say good-by'; and yet there was that in her eyes which said 'perhaps it may be good-by.'" The intention to seek rest and change elsewhere was not realized, for with the cessation of work came a quick decline of health, and it was found impossible to carry out the plan. Miss Doolittle had been a member of the A. L. A. since 1894, and was present at the Cleveland conference; she was also a member of the Wisconsin Library Association, and was much interested in library development in that state.

HASSE, Miss Adelaide R., on May 8 resigned her post as librarian of the Office of Superintendent of Documents, Washington, to accept a position in the New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.

HILL, Miss Gertrude P., of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has been appointed to a position in the New York Public Library, Astor building.

LARNED, Josephus Nelson, for over 20 years superintendent of the Buffalo Library, has resigned his office, the resignation to take effect the last of June. To those who know, as do all members of the A. L. A., how intimately Mr. Larned has been associated with the library interests of Buffalo, and how effective his influence has been in the reorganization of the library as a free circulating library, the news of his resignation comes as a matter of deep regret. Mr. Larned's decision is the result of circumstances that have been shaping themselves since the reorganization of the government of the library as a municipal institution, and which tended to restrict the freedom of action hitherto enjoyed by the superintendent. There is no question of politics in the matter, but Mr. Larned has not thought it best to accept the management of the library under these new conditions. It is not easy to give, in a few words, an outline of the influence of Mr. Larned's personal work and words, not only in his own city, but on the library profession as a whole. Those who in recent years have heard or read his several library addresses know in part the high ideals, the broad scholarship, the catholicity of spirit that have animated his work — a work that has lain always along the broad lines of educational upliftment rather than in the routine of technical detail. His address as president of the A. L. A. in 1894 was a presentation of the mission of the library in modern life that brought help and inspiration to all who were privileged to hear it, and its sequel, at the Cleveland meeting in 1896, bore the same uplifting message. These, with the addresses delivered to library schools and associations, have borne fruit many fold in awakening in many a deeper realization of what the library may be in our common life, and in arousing an earnest enthusiasm for the highest and best educational work. Mr. Larned has been a member of the A. L. A.

since 1879, and was elected president in 1893; he has also been intimately associated with the development of the New York State Library Association. His connection with the Buffalo Library covers the history of that institution through three successive phases: as the Young Men's Library until 1886, as the Buffalo Library until 1897, and as the Buffalo Public Library in the spring of the present year. The library building, opened in January, 1887, was planned by Mr. Larned, and he has worked for years to make the library an essential factor in the life of the city. Its reorganization as a free circulating library is largely the result and fulfilment of this labor, and his retirement at this time is as serious a loss to the city as it is to the library. Of Mr. Larned's work in Buffalo the Buffalo *Courier* says: "He has been in a high sense a public benefactor. For years he has labored patiently, untiringly, modestly, and the measure of his influence who can know? That it has been large and noble and beneficent who doubts? And who has not admiration for his long record of usefulness in the educational uplifting of the community?" No statement of Mr. Larned's future plans has been made, though it is possible that they may tend in the direction of literature—a field in which his *magnum opus* "History for ready reference" has already won him a sincere welcome.

McCABE, Edward D., was on April 20 elected state librarian of California, succeeding Dr. W. P. Matthews, resigned. Mr. McCabe, who is a lawyer, was private secretary to Governor Budd previous to his appointment as librarian.

MATTHEWS, Dr. W. P., who succeeded the late W. D. Perkins as state librarian of California (*see* L. J., Jan., p. 53), presented his resignation to the trustees of the state library on April 3. Dr. Matthews has since accepted the appointment of secretary of the state board of health.

MORGAN, Junius S., a member of the well-known banking firm of Cuyler, Morgan & Co., of New York City, has accepted the position of associate librarian of Princeton University library. Mr. Morgan has always been deeply interested in the development of the library, and in December, 1896, presented to it his fine collection of early editions of Virgil, valued at $50,000. He will arrange his banking business so as to permit him to give most of his time to the library, though maintaining his relations with the firm of Cuyler, Morgan & Co., and will live in Princeton.

NELSON, Miss Sarah C., who has been cataloger at the Blackstone Library, Branford, Ct., for the past two years, has accepted a position on the cataloging force of the New York Public Library, Astor building.

PLUMMER, Miss Mary W. Owing to illness in her family, Miss Mary W. Plummer, director of Pratt Institute Free Library, has been granted leave of absence for a year, from July 1, the year to be spent at her home near Chicago. Miss Mary L. Davis, of the library staff, has been appointed acting librarian.

SAUNDERS, Frederick, librarian *emeritus* of the Astor Library, has in the *Critic* for April 17 a sheaf of "Recollections of a retired librarian," in which he touches lightly upon some of the noteworthy and interesting memories connected with his work in the Astor Library.

STEARNS, Miss L. E., has resigned her position as superintendent of the circulating department of the Milwaukee Public Library, to accept the position of librarian of the reorganized Wisconsin Free Library Commission. She will now give her time and energy fully to the advancement of library interests in Wisconsin—a cause in which she has been one of the most devoted and enthusiastic of workers from the beginning. The excellence of the work done with the children by Miss Stearns at the Milwaukee Public Library, and the wide effectiveness of her example, which has been felt in libraries all over the country, have long been recognized and appreciated by her hosts of friends in the A. L. A., and in library circles generally, and it will be a matter of regret to many that her connection with the Milwaukee library has been severed. But the Wisconsin library commission, strengthened and broadened as it has been by recent legislation, offers a wide field for the best library missionary effort, and to her new position Miss Stearns brings a fund of practical knowledge, an enthusiastic energy, and an earnest devotion that will count for much in the library development of the state. With two such workers as Mr. Hutchins and Miss Stearns enlisted wholly in its behalf, the library movement in Wisconsin promises to be soon no longer a "movement," but a tidal wave. It is pleasant to add that Miss Stearns has recovered from her recent serious illness, and will enter upon her new duties as soon as her successor is appointed at the Milwaukee Public Library.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BROOKLINE (*Mass.*) P. L. Catalogue of historical fiction. Brookline, 1897. 42 p. nar. S.

Classed chronologically, under countries, with brief descriptive annotations.

The CHICAGO UNIVERSITY *Record*, in its issue of April 23, contains an eight-page double-column list of the current periodicals received by the university in all its departments, compiled by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson.

CLEVELAND (*O.*) P. L. Special reading lists: school holiday series, no. 5. Memorial day: selections suitable for its observance, as published in the Cumulative index; compiled by Margaret Pierce. 12 p. T.

COFFIN, Helen L. An introduction to the children's stories in the Aurora Public Library. Aurora, Ill., 1897. 38 p. O.

As this list is "dedicated to the mothers and teachers of Aurora," it may be presumed that

is meant as a manual to point out desirable reading for children and to warn against that which is unwholesome, and that it is not intended to be used by the children themselves. The aim is praiseworthy, but it has been incompetently carried out, and the result is a pretentious and inaccurate list possessing little critical value. It includes only the "J" books in the latest finding list of the library, and its purpose is "to consider the stories critically, as to their wholesomeness, interest, and literary merit." The books are classed in the following divisions: Children's classics, Simple stories, Stories of fancy, School stories, Stories of adventure, Indian stories, Stories founded on the masterpieces of literature, Descriptive stories, Stories founded on history and biography, Sports, Bibliography of books and articles on children's books (18 titles). This classification is confusing and arbitrary, books on the same subject appearing indiscriminately in widely separate divisions. The notes also lack uniformity of style. Adams, Alger, Fosdick, the "Elsie books," and their ilk, are strongly condemned, but these, nevertheless, occupy the greater part of the list — rather a puzzling piece of inconsistency. If it is thought that these books are "pernicious" or "to be kept from boys at almost any cost," the wiser plan would seem to be to simply state this condemnation opposite the author's name and to refrain from listing the objectionable books in full. The term "classic" is used with considerable looseness, and many of the critical dicta are rather astonishing. The pronouncement that "Treasure Island" is "not one of the best books for boys," and the characterization of "Alice's adventures" as "*weird*, upside-down stories" are remarkable specimens of annotation. Many books have no annotation at all, and it is impossible to tell why such discrimination has been made. Technically the list is faulty in many ways. Authors' names are given at random with initials or by surname only; the mode of entering pseudonyms is various; and it will be news to many catalogers that A. G. Plympton is the author' of the "Miss Toosey" books. Finally the proof-reading is careless, and in several cases annotations have been misplaced so as to refer to the wrong book, *i.e.*, Verne's "Michael Strogoff" is described as relating to a "wreck in the Pacific."

CONCORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Bulletin, no. 17: 1894, 1895, 1896. Concord, 1897. 42 p. l. O.

DETROIT (*Mich.*) P. L. Bulletin no. 8, of books added to the Public Library in 1896. Detroit, 1897. 182 p. O.

Appended is a short list of books for the blind (2 p.).

ENOCH PRATT F. L., *Baltimore*. [Quarterly] Bulletin, v. 3, no. 1. April 1, 1897. 28 p. O.

Besides the usual classed list of accessions there is a list of works in Greek and Latin; all but one of the titles included are volumes of the well-known "Bibliotheca Teubneriana."

The FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for March contains a special reference list on Charles Dickens.

The JERSEY CITY (*N. J.*) P. L. *Record* for April 15 contains, in its list of accessions during March, a two-column list of the books for the blind recently added to the library; there is also a short special list on Turkey, Greece, and Crete.

The LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for April contains reference list no. 5 on Electricity.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for March contains reference lists nos. 20 and 21 on Natural science and Greece and Crete.

The NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for March has a first instalment of a list of "periodicals relating to astronomy in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library," covering A – L. There is also a list of publications in the library relating to the Stamp-act congress of 1765, from the Emmet collection.

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Bulletin* contains in its April issue no. 5 of the reading lists in English history, covering the Tudor period, 1485 – 1603; there is also a short reference list on the Cretan rebellion.

The PATERSON (*N. J.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for Feb. – March has reference lists on Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Grieg, and Wagner.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April has a full reading list on Gen. Grant, and briefer lists on Spring and Horseless carriages.

The ST. LOUIS (*Mo.*) P. L. *Magazine*, in its new, attractive, and enlarged form, begins its career with the April number. The first place is given to an interesting and fully illustrated account of the library, which is followed by a variety of literary news and gossip, short reviews, etc., with portraits, and a 23-page classed and annotated list of accessions 10 the library during January and February.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April has a short special reading list on Washington Irving.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) L. *Bulletin* for April has a brief "selected list of books" in botany.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April has a reference list on Ciete and Greece.

### *FULL NAMES.*

*Supplied by Harvard College Library.*

Benjamin, C: H: (Notes on mechanical laboratory practice);

Corsa, W: Pinckney, *editor* (Nut culture in the United States);

Foley, Patrick Kevin (American authors 1795 – 1895);

Hawley, J: Gardner, *joint author* (The criminal law).

## Bibliografy.

ANTI-PEDOBAPTISM. Newman, Albert H: A history of Anti-pedobaptism to A.D. 1609. Phil., Am. Bapt. Pub. Soc., 1897. 11+414 p. O. $2.

Contains a 12-page bibliography annotated in part.

BRITTANY. Sébillot, Paul. Bibliographie des traditions populaires de la Bretagne. (*In Revue de Bretagne, de Vendée et d'Anjou*, no. 12. 1894.)

COLOR-PHOTOGRAPHY. Bolas, T: Contributions toward the bibliography of photography in colors. (*In Journal of the Society of Arts*, Ap. 23. 45 : 531–540.)

Annotated and arranged chronologically, from 1810 to 1897.

DANTE. The 15th (1896) report of the Dante Society (Boston, Ginn & Co.) is almost wholly devoted to a valuable and interesting monograph on "Dante in America: a historical and bibliographical study," by Theodore W. Koch. The bibliography appended to Mr. Koch's paper covers 68 pages and is arranged chronologically, embracing publications from 1807 to 1896; the entries are annotated and the chief libraries possessing the books are indicated.

DOMESTIC SERVICE. Salmon, Lucy Maynard. Domestic service. N. Y., Macmillan, 1897. 14 + 307 p. 8°, $2.

Contains a five-page bibliography.

EDUCATION. In the *School Review* for February and March Elmer E. Brown has a classed and annotated bibliography on "The history of secondary education in the United States."

GYNECOLOGY. Rossi Doria, Tullio. Bibliografia ostetrica e ginecologica italiana per l'anno 1895, compilata secondo la classificazione decimale. (Societa Italiana di Ostetricia e Ginecologia.) Rom., Unione Cooperativa Editrice, 1897. 108 p. 8°.

Reviewed at length in the *Bolletino* of the Bibl. Nazionale of Feb. 15. The work, compiled by Dr. Rossi Doria under the auspices of the Italian Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, is a supplement to that previously compiled for the society by Dr. Pazzi. The bibliography is printed on one side of the page only, following the example of Dr. Richet's "Bibliographica physiologica," to permit the pasting of titles in library card catalogs, where they may be arranged alphabetically by authors or by subject, according to the Dewey decimal classification which is used throughout. It is prefaced by an introduction in which Sig. Rossi Doria describes the decimal system and the work planned and in progress at the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels. "In obstetrics he has had to avail himself of the subdivision made by Melvil Dewey, which is not sufficiently minute and is not yet simplified; for gynecology, however, he had from the Institute of Brussels the tables of the Dewey decimal classification, amplified by Prof. Baudouin, of the medical faculty of Paris, which served him exceedingly well, but are not yet published, though they will soon appear. Scientists," continues the *Bolletino*, "will judge of this subdivision. They will tell us if the Dewey classification adopted is useful to them or not; it is for them to reassure those who fear that because it is sometimes illogical and unreasonable it may confuse their minds and disturb their investigations and scientific researches. For us it remains only to call attention to the fact that this is the first bibliographical work done in Italy according to the Dewey system adopted by the International Bibliographical Institute of Brussels, and that it deserves the examination of those who are interested not in these special branches but in bibliography itself." In conclusion it is announced that the 500 titles of original Italian memoirs on the subjects treated, published in 1895, and listed in this bibliography, have been inserted in the author and subject catalogs of the Biblioteca Nazionale and are at the service of students, "a thing that would have been quite impossible if the worthy Italian Obstetrical and Gynecological Society and the illustrious Dr. Rossi Doria had not offered us this method."

ORGAN-BUILDING. For more than a year past F. E. Robertson's "Practical treatise on organ-building" has been running in the *English Mechanic*. It is concluded in the number for Feb. 12. The numbers for Feb. 5 and Feb. 12 contain a bibliography of the subject, 299 titles being given, most of which may be found in the British Museum.

SOMERSET, *Eng.* Mr. Emanuel Green, F.S.A., has finished his "Bibliography of Somerset," upon which he has been long engaged. The work will be in two volumes, the first dealing with the county, to the exclusion of Bath, while the second will be devoted entirely to the literature of that city. The printing will be done in Taunton, and the work will be obtainable by subscribers only. — *Ath.*, Ap. 17, '97.

SWASTIKA. The report of the U. S. National Museum for 1894 (Gov. Print. Office, 1896) contains an account of "The swastika," by Thomas Wilson, with a bibliography of 13 pages (p. 984–996).

TENNYSON. T: J. Wise begins in the *Athenæum* of March 27 Part I. of a "Tennyson bibliography." The first part is devoted to "Contributions to periodical literature, etc.," and includes 24 entries; it is continued in the issues for April 10 and 24.

X RAYS. The *Bulletin* of the Johns Hopkins Hospital for Feb., 1897 (8 : 17–23) contains an article on "A case of dermatitis due to the X rays," by T. C. Gilchrist, which is followed by a short bibliography (1 col.)

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**Blanc** (J.). Bibliographie italico-française, 2 vol. in-8. 1886. 30 fr.

**Bory de Saint Vincent.** *Botanique* du Voyage autour du monde sur la corvette *La Coquille* pendant les années 1822–25. Partie *Cryptogamie.* In-4, avec 36 planches coloriées et noires. 1828. 35 fr.

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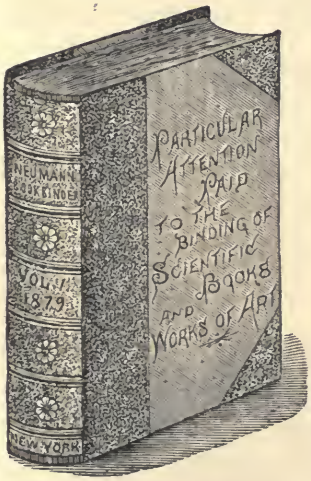


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THE

# Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

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LIBRARY OF UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN.

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. JUNE, 1897. No. 6

PREPARATIONS for the Philadelphia conference have within the past few weeks developed into definite completeness, and by the time this number of the JOURNAL reaches the hands of its readers, arrangements for the meeting will have been practically finished. Elsewhere is given the final program, showing so varied and comprehensive an array of important business that a doubt arises as to whether the hitherto unyielding limitations of time have been conquered by the program committee. But it must be remembered that the stimulus of the conference itself makes it possible to accomplish more within the five days of the meeting than can be done in a fortnight of ordinary routine. In at least two respects the present meeting will have an important influence upon the future of the association. The proposed reincorporation of the A. L. A., and its policy as to extension of membership, are subjects that demand the most careful consideration and the most thorough discussion, and it is to be hoped that librarians will come prepared to give to these questions the thought and attention their importance demands. There is every reason to believe that the future policy of the association in these and other respects will be definitely outlined at Philadelphia, and for this reason, if for no other, the coming conference promises to rank as one of the most important in the history of the A. L. A.

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IT is not often that a great opportunity is fully recognized beforehand, but the arrangements for the proposed building of the New York Public Library mark an exception to that rule. With the passage of the bill authorizing the erection of a $2,500,000 library building in Bryant park, the way has been opened in New York for the development of a public library that shall be a type and model of all that a great library should be in a great city. How admirably the opportunity thus offered has been recognized by the library authorities is made evident in the article and illustrative plans given elsewhere. In the provisions regulating the architectural competition, in the suggestive plans, and in the specific requirements outlined, the details of the preliminary competition show a foresight, a practicality and a definiteness of purpose that bid fair to mark a new era in library architecture. The fact that the plans presented are wholly suggestive is another evidence of the sound judgment used throughout. This permits unrestrained discussion and allows amendment in the light of the wisdom found in many counsellors. It is such amendment that the trustees are desirous to obtain, and to that end it has been arranged to bring the subject up for discussion at the Philadelphia conference, and to elicit a full and free expression of library opinion. The library authorities have realized that the time for suggestion and criticism is while there is still opportunity to make use of them. After the plans have solidified into steel and stone, the only thing to do is to make the best of matters; it is while they are still on paper that criticism is wholly worth while. The problems connected with the building resolve themselve into direct questions. Is it large enough? Is it too large for the money? Does it provide adequately for future extension? Is the reading-room most advantageously placed? Shall utility be sacrificed to architectural effect? These are among the questions that will arise, and in answering them most effectively the library authorities will be serving not only their own city but the libraries of the future throughout the country. Too many of the great libraries of the past have been built for the architects, not for the library; for art, not for books. Under the wise guidance of Dr. Billings and his associates it is safe to prophesy that the New York Public Library will escape these dangers and will be a lasting object lesson of what to do, not what to avoid, in library architecture.

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GEORGIA is the first southern state to add its organized influence to the modern library movement, and its advent into library ranks will be welcomed throughout the profession. The organization of the Georgia Library Club a few weeks since is a sign of the general library awakening in the south for which many have hoped and waited. What is most encouraging

is that the movement is not the product of a fleeting enthusiasm, but is the result of a gradual and increasing realization of the place the modern library occupies in modern life. In the library congress of the Atlanta Exposition, in the state commission bill introduced into the last Georgia legislature, in the previous efforts toward a state library organization, the ground has been made ready for the seed just sown, and there is every reason to hope that the harvest will be an abundant one. The effective work done by Miss Wallace, to whose offorts the present results are almost wholly due, deserves the most cordial recognition, and proves again how much the success of all such movements is due to the personal enthusiasm and perseverance of a few workers.

---

NOR is Georgia the only southern state to be represented on the library roll of honor within the past few months. Tennessee has taken an important step toward library development in the recent law authorizing and facilitating the establishment of libraries in cities of over 20,000 inhabitants. The law is broadly conceived and should prove an effective stimulus to library growth, though the limitation as to size, restricting libraries only to larger communities, is of course to be regretted. The awakening of library sentiment that is taking place in the various southern states gives special emphasis to the desirability of holding the 1898 conference of the A. L. A. in a southern city. That Atlanta will be chosen as the next meeting-place seems quite probable, and it cannot be doubted that in meeting there the A. L. A. would be doing missionary work of the most effective kind and would materially hasten and strengthen the library development of the south.

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ONE subject that it might be well to consider at Philadelphia is the question of indexes, or rather of the lack of indexes, in current books. It is undoubtedly true that the lack of adequate indexes to many of the important books of the day is one of the most constant of the librarian's minor grievances, and as librarians are to-day among the largest purchasers of books they should be able to find a remedy for the difficulty. In glancing over the books of the past three months, it is easy to note half a dozen, the usefulness of which to the librarian would be practically doubled by a good index. A good index, however, is expensive, and until publishers realize that the salable value of a book is impaired by its lack they will hardly feel obliged to furnish it. There seems no reason why the A. L. A. should not be able to bring the necessity of indexes clearly home to publishers from this commercial point of view, and the Philadelphia meeting gives opportunity for a discussion of the means whereby this may be done. Nor are indexes to current books the only ones to be considered. Mr. Tillinghast has already suggested, on behalf of the co-operation committee, the indexing of important standard works that lack this necessary key to their contents. Such an enterprise would undoubtedly be of great value to librarians, and the further report of the co-operation committee on the subject will be awaited with interest.

## Communications.

### *THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN.*

ONE of the signs of increasing breadth of library activity is the fact that librarians are now not simply interested in the children, but are thinking out the proper methods for thorough and effective work. A recent correspondent writes: "In considering the question of the children's room, would you think it advisable to have the shelving seven feet high, and what would you suggest as to the contents of the room, both as to furniture and as to books?"

The building and the furniture are important considerations, but there is danger that after much time and skill has been expended in planning the room and choosing the books, the children will be put under the charge of a librarian whose chief recommendations are that she lives in town, is willing to work for a small salary, and is considered "fond of children." We have yet to learn that the children's librarian, if her work is worth doing at all, needs not only the general training, scholastic and technical, recognized as essential for those who have charge of other departments, but also a special training for her peculiar work. This special training will probably include a part of that taken by the kindergartner, a course in child-study according to modern methods and a careful analysis of children's literature.

Two young women are to my knowledge now making an effort to fit themselves for this children's work. Others who have a natural fitness will probably submit themselves to training. I should be glad to correspond with librarians who are entering seriously upon the task of discovering in what way the needs of the child can be met by the public library, because I am very much interested in working out the proper course for the training of the children's librarian. I might also be able to put the librarian into communication with those who are fitted to do exceptionally good work in this line. MARY SALOME CUTLER.

ALBANY, June 4, 1897.

## TRAVELLING LIBRARIES OF ILLUSTRATIONS.*

By Hannah Johnson Carter.

A PLAN for the distribution of reading-matter in the form of circulating libraries is not a very new movement, but of late it has been found that such libraries may be supplemented or combined with the distribution of pictures with the happiest results. Indeed, pictures will sometimes appeal when and where books would not.

We have all heard of the humanizing influence which the exhibitions of pictures have wrought in what is known as the worst part of London. These exhibitions began in a small way, the promoters believing that a love of beauty was the heritage of all, and the enterprise has grown until recently a beautiful building has been built expressly for these exhibitions, to be known as the "Whitechapel Picture Gallery." Similar exhibitions have been held in the lower part of New York and always attended by large and appreciative crowds.

In Manchester, England, there is a system of circulating collections of pictures in the schools of that city, and Mr. T. C. Horsfall, who developed the method, says that "the decision as to whether art shall be used in education is to modern communities a decision as to whether the mass of the people shall be barbarian or civilized."

A school-master in London, who simply could not keep his pupils in school, tried, as a last resort, tacking the best posters he could find upon the walls, interspersed with smaller pictures — a reward for early attendance was a chance to pass around and examine them. His method proved much more efficacious than the services of the truant officer.

At Hull House, Chicago, a college settlement which is situated in the midst of the sweater's district, there are held two exhibitions of pictures a year. Owing partly to the limited space available for these exhibits they have been small, but the effort has always been made to show only pictures that combine to a considerable degree an elevated tone with technical excellence. One of the residents of the settlement has provided good sets of pictures and casts for several schools in the poorest localities. A society has been organized for carrying on this work.

The Central Art Association, which has for its object "the promotion and dispersion of good art among the people," has its headquarters in Chicago. One of the most important features of its work is the sending from place to place of loan collections of paintings by representative American artists. The exhibition season opens in November and closes in May, the collections passing about all that time.

Miss Mary Tanner, the art teacher at the Normal School at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, is doing a good work among the farming people in her vicinity. Miss Tanner takes good reprints or photographs of some of the best works of art, and frames them neatly with a border of gray matting, pasting a manila back to this simple frame to protect the picture. Then a short description of the artist, and if possible of the work itself, is written and pasted on the back, so that those who are enjoying the picture may have as much help as possible in understanding its purpose. Eyelets are inserted by which to hang the picture, and a pocket for a library card is then pasted on. The picture is finally enclosed in a large envelope of heavy manila paper, the envelope is numbered and labelled and then is ready for circulation. These pictures are placed in the school-houses as centres and the teacher takes charge of the catalog. A dozen or 20 pictures will thus circulate in a community for a quarter term. In a recent letter from Miss Tanner she says: "Last Friday night I drove six miles in the country in a blinding snow-storm to meet a school-house full of foreigners, children and grown people, half of whom could not speak any other language than Polish. The interest, intense and pitiful, which they exhibited in the pictures, and the choice exhibited in selection made me feel that the expression of a high and noble idea was an inspiration forever, and that though dead those artists who caught some of the divine glory and transferred it to their canvases still live to lead others up and on to the higher life."

In Bridgeport, Conn., Miss Dillon, the art teacher, has started a good work. There are 21 school buildings, so 21 works of art were purchased, consisting of reproductions and casts. One was sent to each school building at the beginning of the school year, the masterpiece remained in the school two weeks and then was sent to another building, another taking its

* Read at meeting of Massachusetts Library Club, Boston, April 22, 1897.

place. In order not to have this new departure too heavy a burden upon the teachers the art teacher arranged in it this way. The principal of each building was asked to be responsible for a very full sketch of the art piece which he received at the beginning of the year. He met his teachers and assigned them topics on the subject which they found no difficulty in studying in the art department of the Bridgeport Public Library. Then the principal put together the information thus obtained, and this sketch was sent with the picture or cast from school to school, so that all the hard work in the way of research was really done in the first two weeks, and after that the teachers studied the sketch which came to them and took from it the information adapted to the age of the children they were teaching. Such a sketch contained information enough to satisfy high-school pupils and at the same time much that would be interesting to much younger children.

Miss Edith Putnam, of New York City, has in charge many boy's and girl's clubs and mother's classes. She sends out a circulating library of books to which has been added about 50 pictures. They are masterpieces and are framed simply, they go to various houses just as the books do, being returned after a certain time. In speaking of this work Miss Putnam said: "It is very interesting to me to observe that the Italians take out very few books, preferring pictures."

The library of the Boston Art Students Association contains a great many fine photographs for the use of the members, with which to illustrate lectures or for purposes of reference. There is also a picture club, containing folios of photographs for circulation in working girls' clubs and Sunday-school classes.

An important step was taken at a meeting of the Massachusetts State Federation of Clubs at Springfield early in February of this year. The topic for the day was "Art, the need of the beautiful in the home, the schools, the streets." 21 pictures were exhibited, reproductions of masterpieces, besides a collection of water-colors by Mr. Walter Chaloner. The next move was that of the Thought and Work Club of Salem. Mrs. Kate Tannatt Woods is president, and she was so inspired by the meeting at Springfield that she induced the club to purchase a set of these 21 reproductions, to be given by the club to the public schools of Salem. Later there was an exhibit at Manchester, N. H., and one at Waltham, Mass.

In our large cities there is much for the people to enjoy in our libraries and museums, yet even with the treasures within their grasp it is often necessary to do considerable not only with the children but with their elders to lead them to fully appreciate what they have at hand. Works of art often need interpretation and their beauties made evident to the untrained eye.

These various movements which have been briefly touched upon are significant, inasmuch as they show that there are many people who are not satisfied to live by bread alone; they hunger for beauty, and grasp with eagerness whatever is held out to them. Whoever has a message, let him speak. Whoever has something to give, let him give. Each and all can do something, and the whole shall help forward the brotherhood of man.

## THE BROWNE CHARGING SYSTEM.

By B. W. Pennock, *New Bedford (Mass.) Free Public Library.*

Since we have been using for a year, at the New Bedford Public Library, a charging system used in very few libraries, it may be that our experience with it will be of some interest to the readers of the Library Journal.

In a library with a daily circulation not much beyond 100 v. almost any charging system can be used with a fair degree of satisfaction; but when the daily circulation reaches 400 or 500 v., with occasional days of 1000 or 1200, the question of what charging system to use becomes a much more important one. Of course a system which will give satisfaction in a large library can be used well enough in a small one; and a growing library, though it be quite small, will probably be the gainer in the end by adopting a system which is workable in a much larger one.

The slip-in-the-case system — which, I believe, was invented by the present librarian of Amherst College — is probably in use to-day in more libraries than any other; and it certainly is a great advance over the old ledger system. But where speed in charging is a matter of prominent importance it leaves much to be desired. This is the system which was in use

in our library a year ago; and it caused us much trouble on account of oft-recurring mistakes in copying either the registered number of the borrower or the book mark.

Our largest circulation in one day up to that time was 915, and only once had it reached that point. The ordinary busy day seldom went beyond 700. But the necessity of writing the reader's card number — which in many cases consists of five figures — the book mark — which seldom has less than five symbols, and often eight or nine — and of stamping with the date both the charging slip and the borrower's card, was the cause of much delay and of many mistakes.

It seems a simple matter to copy numbers upon squares of paper, but experience shows that even the most careful and accurate person will make many mistakes during the busy hours in copying the somewhat complicated book marks of the Dewey system and the Cutter author table.

On account of these difficulties I gave considerable study to the various charging systems in use in libraries similar to ours in size and circulation. Visiting the Forbes Library at Northampton one day, Mr. Cutter showed me the system there in use, which was invented by Miss Browne, of the Library Bureau. For several reasons it struck me favorably. Prominent among these reasons was the fact that no writing, either of name or numbers, was necessary in charging a book, so that the mistakes so often made in copying would be eliminated.

After careful study of various systems, we decided to adopt Miss Browne's system in the form in which Mr. Cutter was using it. The system has been described in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, May, 1895, and I will not take the time to describe it here; but I will give a few details regarding the materials which we use and the success we have had with it.

The pocket which we paste on the inside of the back cover of the book is of good manila paper, 3½ x 4 inches. We put the longer side across the cover when the book is large enough to permit it. This pocket serves also for a place to stamp the date on which the book is delivered to the reader. The card is 2 x 4¼ inches, is of good quality of tag board, and bears the number of the book plainly written on both sides at one end. The number is also written on the cover just above the right-hand corner of the pocket. Several thousand coin envelopes were purchased, 2¼ x 3½ inches, of good manila paper, open at one end, and with the cover not folded. This cover we cut down with a pair of bent shears, leaving only enough to serve as a sort of guide to catch the corner of the card when it is being inserted into the envelope. These materials we have found both cheap and satisfactory.

As to the practical working of the system, the strong points as they have appeared to us are, the elimination of the writing as mentioned above, and the fact that only by unusual carelessness on the part of attendants can a book returned to the library be given out again without being discharged. In the hurry of a busy day a book will sometimes be received, and even put into its place on the shelf, without being discharged; but in this system it cannot be given out again, because the card which belongs to the book and with which it is charged will be missing. And since overdue notices are not sent without looking upon the shelf, the mistake of sending an overdue notice when the book has been returned is almost impossible.

As to the difficulties of the system — for every system has its worse as well as its better side — there are two, or more strictly two parts of the same thing. In busy times it is easy for the person discharging to take from the case the wrong book card and put it into the pocket of the book to be discharged. This is a source of trouble in several ways; the book is liable to be put on the shelf with the wrong card, and when the book belonging to that card comes in the card cannot be found. Then the card of the book which went on the shelf with the wrong card still stands in the charging-case, and the envelope of the person who returned it is of course there too; and when a book is found for him there is no envelope with which to charge it. Or it may be that the mistake is not noticed at the charging-desk and the book is charged in the envelope, which was wrongly discharged — that is, the book is charged to the wrong person. As a matter of fact this happened with us many times in the first few weeks, and when there were added to these mistakes the ones occasionally made of taking up the wrong envelope when the right one was at hand, we often found ourselves in considerable difficulty.

That these difficulties were not inherent in the system I was confident, and after studying the case for a few days I adopted a suggestion of Mr. Cutter's that it was better to call the reader's name from the envelope rather than from his card, which, with a rearrangement of

desk attendants, almost entirely removed the difficulty.

There are also several incidental conveniences connected with the system which are worth mentioning. It frequently happens that a book which is out is wanted by some one as soon as it returns. It is very easy to note that fact on a bit of paper and place it in the envelope with the book card. In a similar manner a record can be made when an overdue notice is sent. It saves time in sending overdue notices, for the delinquent's full name and address is on the envelope, so that no looking-up is needed. Again, it helps the librarian to keep some knowledge of the tastes of different readers, so that he may call their attention to new books which may be of interest to them.

One other important matter ought to be mentioned, and that is in regard to the speed with which books may be charged and discharged. There are several systems by which books can be discharged as rapidly as by this one, but I know of none by which they can be charged so rapidly and so accurately. In a busy time it is not necessary to arrange the charges as the books are delivered. They can be piled up or dropped into a box or drawer to be arranged in a quiet time. The person who finds the book and brings it to the desk to be charged will generally slip the book card into the envelope while bringing it to the desk, so that the one charging has only to stamp the book and the card — when the book is ready to go. A person who is fairly quick and accustomed to the system will deliver books about as rapidly as readers will take them from the desk.

While books cannot be discharged quite as rapidly as they can be charged, it is seldom that the discharging-desk is crowded in our library, though in the busiest days we deliver more than 1000 volumes. Two or three times in as many months I have, for a few moments, helped the person discharging by putting the cards into the books as they were taken from the case. But this was only because of the cramped condition of our delivery-room, on which account we serve readers as fast as possible, that they may go away to make room for others. In a word, the system is very satisfactory with us.

NOTE. — Since writing the above I have seen somewhere in print an objection offered to this system on the ground that all books must be discharged as soon as they are returned. This objection seems to me to have little force, because a large part of the books returned in a busy time are needed to go out again as much as the envelopes are needed for charging them.

## THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

ON May 19 the act providing for the construction of a building for the consolidated New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, was signed by Governor Black, and thus the second step was taken in the development of a great public library in New York City. The act authorizes the department of public parks to remove from Bryant park, at Fifth avenue and 42d street, the old reservoir now occupying the east end of that park, "and to erect, construct, maintain, equip and furnish" in the park "or in or upon any portion thereof, a suitable and appropriate fireproof building, in accordance with plans to be made and prepared by the trustees of the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, and to be approved by the board of estimate and apportionment in the city." Upon authorization of the board of estimate and apportionment, city stock to the amount of $2,500,000 shall be issued and sold for defraying the cost of the removal of the reservoir and the erection of the library building.

Since the consolidation of the library in May, 1895, the problems in connection with the proposed building have been under consideration by the trustees, and since the introduction of the building bill into the assembly in February of this year, plans have been pushed forward so that on the passage of the act the library authorities would be able to arrange immediately for the preparation of plans. The preliminary arrangements were conducted by a committee of the board, composed of John S. Kennedy, John Bigelow, John L. Cadwalader, S. V. R. Cruger, Lewis Cass Ledyard, Alexander Maitland, and George L. Rives, with a special advisory committee of three, Dr. John S. Billings, director of the library, Prof. Ware, of Columbia University, and Bernard R. Green, superintendent of construction of the Congressional Library; and so effective has been their work that it was possible to announce the intentions of the library authorities three days after the bill became a law.

It has been decided to obtain the plans by means of two consecutive competitions, the first being an open competition in which only sketches will be required, the second a restricted and paid competition, for which finished drawings will be made. All architects having offices or places of business within the limits of Greater New York are invited to compete in the first competition, which will be judged by Prof. Ware, Mr. Green, and Dr. Billings, who will award a premium of $400 each to the 12 sketches

considered most meritorious. For the second competition, the committee will choose six of the authors of the 12 sketches selected in the first competition, and will add to them six other architects, to be named by the trustees or the committee, who shall be invited to participate in the second competition under conditions framed by the committee. These competitors will be paid $800 each, as the estimated cost of the drawings required, and the plans submitted shall be judged by a jury of seven persons, consisting of three trustees, the director, and three practising architects, to be chosen by the competitors. At least three designs shall be named by the jury, in order of excellence, and of these one shall be chosen by the trustees and submitted to the board of estimate and apportionment for final approval. It will be seen that this plan provides, in the first competition, for a consideration of the work of all architectural aspirants, while in the second competition it will be possible to include well-known firms, which may have been deterred from prior participation by reason of the agreement entered into a few months previously by some of the most prominent architects of New York refusing to take part in unpaid competitions.

The problems required to be solved in the proposed building, the main requirements to be met, and the limits to be recognized, were studied in careful detail by Dr. Billings, Prof. Ware, and Mr. Green, who have prepared suggestive plans and outlined the main features desired, for the guidance of the competing architects. At a special meeting of the trustees, held May 19, the plans of the committee were submitted and approved and the executive committee was authorized to carry out the arrangements with such modifications in matters of detail as might be thought desirable.

The details and conditions of the preliminary competition were made public on May 22. They are given in a 16-page pamphlet and are accompanied by the suggestive plans prepared by the special committee, which are here shown in reduced fac-simile.

The building, which is to be built for not more than $1,700,000, is to stand on the site of the present reservoir, a plot about 482 by 455 feet in diameter. The plans prepared by the committee show, simply and clearly, the main features to be considered, and will repay the careful attention of librarians who are but too familiar with library buildings as seen by architects only. These plans have been drawn for a building, measuring about 225 by 350 feet, estimated to serve for 25 years without extension, with a book capacity of 1,250,000 volumes in the main stack, and accommodation for 800 readers in the main reading-room. The location suggested is about 75 feet from Fifth avenue and about 50 feet from 40th and 42d streets, thus allowing the book-stack at the back to extend to the open portions of the park and leaving ample space for future enlargement. The stacks, it will be seen, are planned as a single, compact parallelogram, forming, as it were, the backbone of the structure, and occupying the two stories above the basement. On the third story, directly over the stack, is placed the great reading-room. "This arrangement is suggested so as to give the reading-rooms the maximum amount of light, to bring the stacks into easy and direct communication with them, and to allow of the extension of the building toward the west at some future day, by enlarging both the stacks and the reading-rooms simultaneously and proportionately, with a comparatively small en largement of the portions of the building devoted to administrative and other uses." The method of this future enlargement is shown by the dotted lines in the diagrams, which indicate the construction of two rear courts, similar to the two central courts around which the building is planned, and which would permit the addition of stack-rooms, reading-rooms, and other departments, on lines exactly similar to those already existing, bringing the total book capacity of the building up to about 3,000,000 volumes and doubling its reading-room facilities.

Taking up the several plans in order, it will be seen that the basement is given up almost entirely to what may be called the heavy machinery of the library. Besides the boiler-rooms, engine-rooms, ventilating apparatus and storage facilities, provision is here made for a printing plant, where bulletins, special lists, etc., may be published, and for a bindery. On the Fifth avenue front, space is assigned to lunch-rooms, for the use of the library force or readers. This is an interesting innovation in American library plans, though library restaurants exist in connection with the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale, and a similar feature has been suggested for the Library of Congress. On the 40th street side, facing a driveway for carts, are found rooms for packing, exchange and issue of books to branch libraries, and with these rooms the stack-room, which here occupies about half the space assigned to it on the floors above, is directly connected.

On the first floor are found those departments in which the general public comes into most constant contact with the library. The main public entrance is at the Fifth avenue front, and is flanked on either side by the children's department and the periodical reading-room. Beyond these are the patent-room and the public documents room. Another public entrance is placed at the 42d street side, between which and the main entrance are the public coat and toilet rooms. From this entrance direct access is had on one side to a lecture-room, on the other to the public documents room, and in front to the newspaper reading-room. On the 40th street side is a private entrance, about which are grouped the visitors'-room, receiving-room, the work-rooms and reception-room for employes, and the rooms of the business superintendent. Directly in the centre and opening from the main entrance is the large delivery-room, extending up through the second story, lighted on either side by the great central courts, and opening at the rear directly upon the stack-room. The newspaper reading-room

connects with the delivery-room, and opens upon the 42d street entrance.

The second floor might be called the special libraries floor, for here ample provision is made for separate collections, rare books, mss., etc. A class-room for the use of teachers, or of the library staff, directly connected with a small reading-room, is found on the left of the central stairway and elevators, and on the right is the library for the blind and a public toilet-room. On the 40th street, or administrative, side are the director's and trustees' room, the ordering, cataloging, and accession rooms, and a private toilet-room.

The third floor centres in the great T-shaped reading-room, extending over the stack and delivery rooms, abundantly lighted on four sides, and connected with the stacks below by a central oblong well up and down which books are conveyed by carriers. This well extends through the stack-rooms to the basement and affords immediate communication throughout the several stories. At either end of the reading-room are the newspaper store-room and a room to be devoted to "public comfort" —a most attractive and suggestive title. On this floor also are special study-rooms, a photographic-room, and ample space as yet unassigned, but in which provision will be made for exhibitions, art collections, etc.

It will be seen that all rooms connected with the routine work of the library are grouped as closely as possible, and are connected in regular sequence. Thus, directly over the issue and packing room is the receiving-room, while below that are the ordering, cataloging, and accessions room, all being directly connected by elevator service. Each floor of the building coincides with the level of the floors of the book-stack, which are from seven to seven-and-a-half feet apart. This would make the basement and lower stories of the building from 14 to 15 feet in height, if two stacks high, and from 21 to 22½ feet if three stacks high.

In presenting this outline scheme of the building, the trustees emphasize the fact that it is offered only as a suggestion and that competitors are requested and desired to modify or change it according to their individual judgment. In particular it is thought that it may be desirable "to give the building greater dimensions, north and south, than are indicated in the diagram," and it is also recommended that competitors who adhere to the suggestive plans should also submit an alternative design "showing the public reading-rooms on the first floor, instead of on the third, and giving the building perhaps greater extension on the ground, and fewer stories in height."

Naturally, the suggestive plans put forth by the library authorities have been received with conflicting opinions by architects interested. So far, three questions of importance have been raised. The first relates to the advisability of placing the main reading-room in the third story instead of on the first floor. The arguments against this are briefly (1) that a first-floor reading-room is more immediately accessible and more generally used by old persons or by hurried visitors than a room which must be reached by stairs or elevators, and (2) that a great central first-floor reading-room, lighted from above, extending up to a dome, and lined with books, is by far the more impressive and magnificent in its effect, as is witnessed by the British Museum and the Congressional Library. On the other hand, a reading-room such as is shown in the suggestive plans possesses the absolute advantages (1) of freedom from the noise and dust of the street, (2) avoidance of waste space, as in the lofty dome of a first-floor room where practical utility is sacrificed to architectural effect, and (3) direct and simple connection with the stacks, without elaborate time-wasting machinery; while the elevators provided for would annul the argument of inaccessibility.

A second question is whether the suggested method of extension is the most practicable one, or whether it may not be possible to devise other and more effective provision for future enlargement. The other objection raised by architects to the trustees' scheme is that the suggestive plans call for a building too large for the money; that is, that should this scheme be followed, the sum named will cover simply the cost of erection, and will allow no margin for lavish interior decoration. From the library point of view, this argument has little force, for, public opinion to the contrary notwithstanding, the chief purpose of a library building is to adequately house a library; but, popularly, the objection has weight.

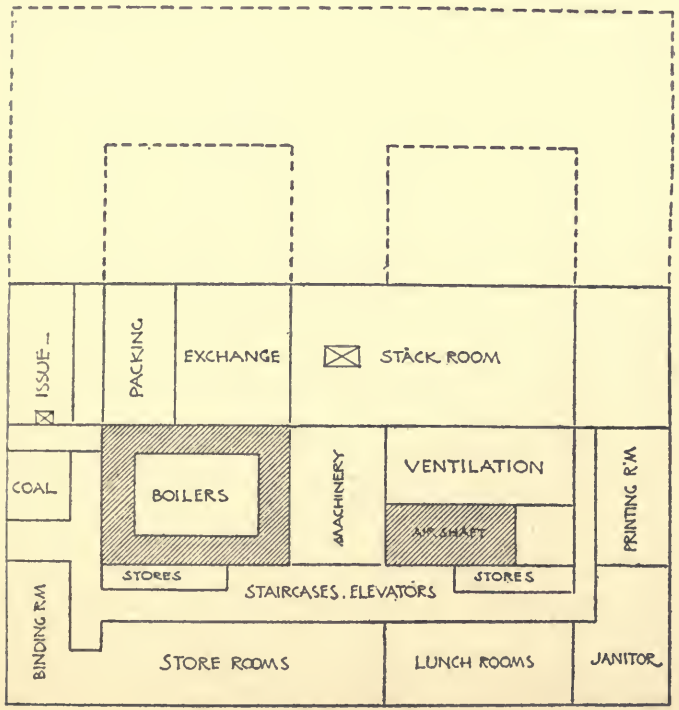
To these questions, and to all others that may arise in connection with the proposed building, the library authorities are anxious to give the fullest and most thorough consideration, and they desire to obtain the judgment and suggestions of all competent to consider the subject. With this in view, it has been arranged to give part of one session of the Philadelphia conference to a presentation and discussion of the proposed plans. Dr. Billings will then describe in some detail the suggestive plans, which will be presented for inspection, and it is hoped that a general and helpful discussion may be elicited.

It is hoped that the work of obtaining final plans for the building may be pushed forward without delay. July 15 is the date set for the close of the preliminary competition. The details of the second competition will probably be announced early in August, and by November it is hoped that the successful design will have been chosen, and the way opened for practical and definite work.

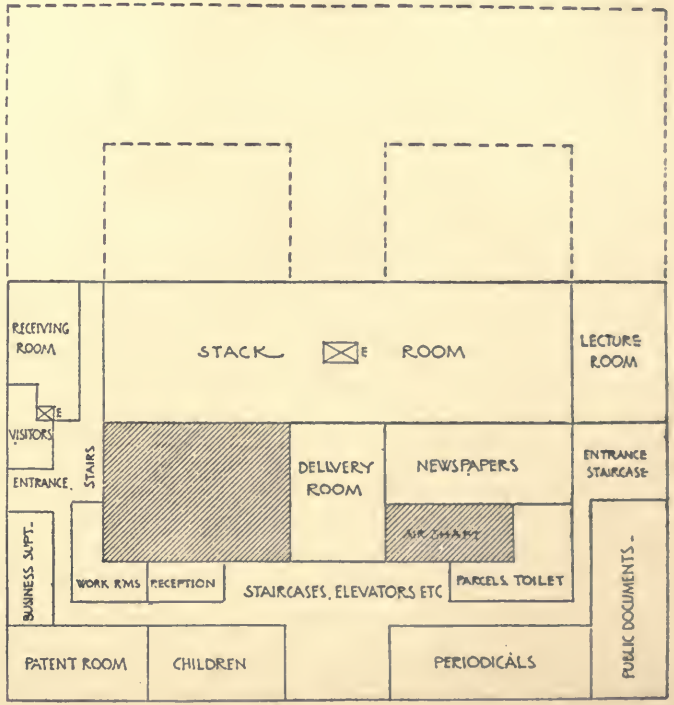
The following is the schedule of the rooms which must be provided in the plans submitted:

1. Stack-room for 1,200,000 volumes, 8 volumes per lineal foot, 150,000 linear feet of shelving would be needed, averaging seven shelves to each story.

2. Reading-rooms. — In the three public reading-rooms space for at least 800 readers will be required, with an allowance of 30 square feet per reader, exclusive of space required for catalogs and reference shelving, or about 26,800 square feet in all. This space should be divided into three rooms, so arranged that only one

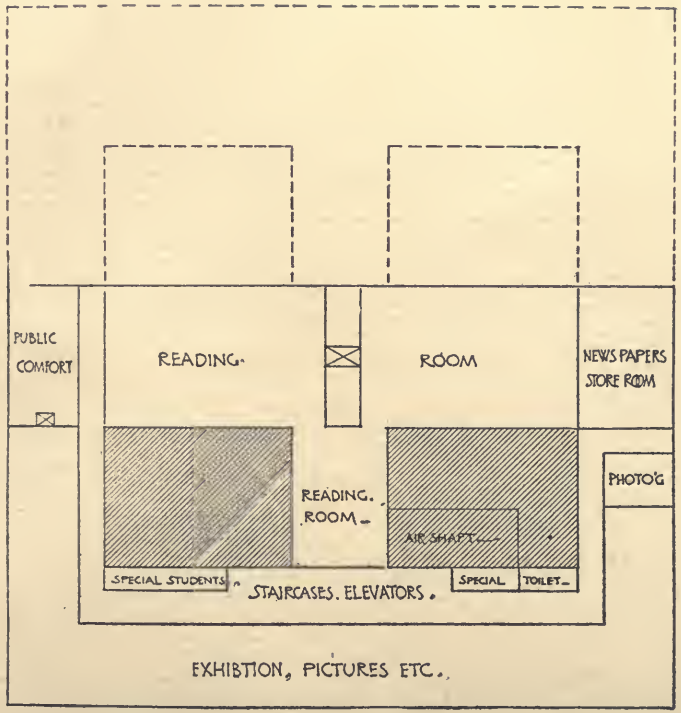



BASEMENT PLAN

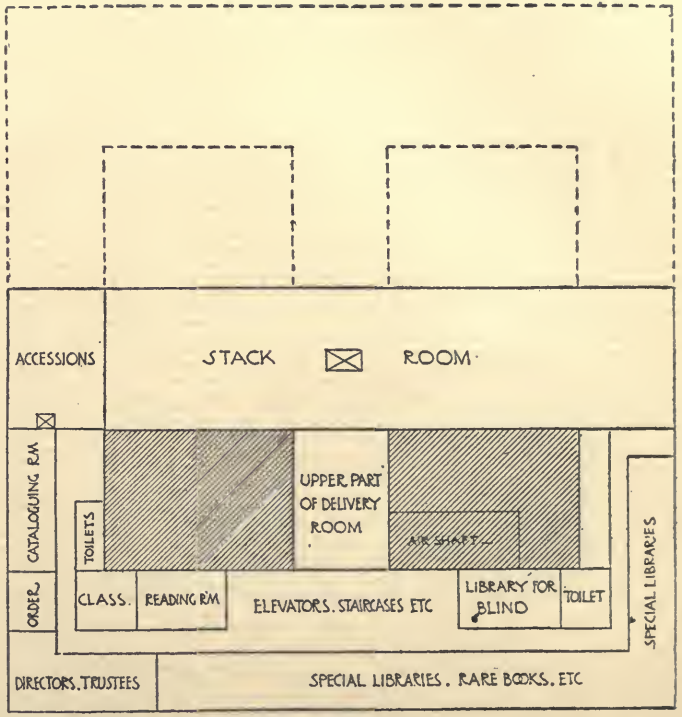



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SUGGESTIVE PLANS, NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.




TOP FLOOR PLAN




SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SUGGESTIVE PLANS, NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

need be used at a time, but that all can readily be served from one delivery-counter, which should be central and close to the main stacks.

There must be at least 2500 feet (linear) of shelving for free reference-books in these rooms, and the card catalog, occupying at least 150 square feet, must be provided for near the delivery-desk. In all the reading-rooms and wherever shelving is required, it must not be more than seven shelves in height. This gives seven feet of shelving for each running foot of wall space. Where there is not enough wall space for the amount of shelving called for, stacks of double shelves, back to back, may be employed, either projecting from the walls, or standing free in the room.

The ceilings of the reading-rooms should be kept as low as is consistent with pleasing proportions. There should be no waste spaces to be heated and kept clean.

3. Periodical-room, 4000 square feet; 1000 linear feet of shelving. This room must be upon the first floor.

4. Newspaper-room, about 4000 square feet area.

5. Newspaper store-room, 5000 square feet.

6. Map-room, 900 square feet.

7. Patents-room, 2500 feet of shelving; 25 readers, 3000 square feet.

8. Public document rooms, 3000 square feet.

9. Children's room, 1500 square feet to 2000 square feet; 1000 feet of shelving; 50 readers.

10. Library for the blind, 800 square feet; 20 readers; 125 feet of shelving.

11. Special reading-rooms, five or six rooms each, with 1000 feet of shelving; about 1800 square feet — 9000 square feet.

12. Manuscript department, one store-room, 600 square feet; one reading-room for six readers, 240 square feet; one librarian's room, 240 square feet.

13. Music-room, 1600 feet of shelving; 800 square feet.

14. Bible-room, 1200 feet of shelving; 800 square feet; six readers.

15. Special work-rooms for special students, eight, each 150 square feet — 1200 square feet; each with 100 linear feet of shelving.

16. Lending delivery-room — delivery-counter at least 40 feet long; seats for 100 waiting; 5000 feet of shelving; catalog space, bulletin boards; about 5000 square feet.

The stock of books in this room should be close to the main stack, and have machine communication with the delivery-desks in the main reading-rooms. This room must be upon the first floor.

17. Picture gallery, 5000 square feet. (The Lenox Gallery is 40 by 56 feet.)

18. Stuart collection room, 5000 square feet, must be connected with the picture gallery and on the same floor.

19. An exhibition-room for the History of printing, etc., 5000 square feet.

20. Photograph-rooms, 500 square feet. Top floor, skylight to north, dark room, printing room.

21. Trustees' room, 800–1000 square feet, near the director's rooms, with a large safe for the secretary.

22. Director's rooms. — One office for secretary and stenographer, 900 square feet; one private room with lavatory, 300 square feet. Near to trustees' room, also to order-room.

This must come between the public and the administrative part.

23. Order and checking department, 2600 square feet; 300 feet of shelving. Between director's office and cataloging-room.

24. Cataloging-room, 2800 square feet; 1000 feet of shelving. To connect easily with order-room, receiving-room, accessions-room, and stacks. Cloak-room and lavatory for women appended.

25. Receiving-room for books, 1500 square feet; 600 feet of shelving. To connect with packing and delivery rooms and with cataloging-room, either directly or by elevator.

26. Accessions department, 1800 square feet; two rooms for stamping, labelling, etc. Main office, 150 feet of shelving. To connect with cataloging-room, with stacks, and with binding department by lift.

27. Packing and delivery room, 500 feet of shelving. Easy connection with receiving-room and with duplicate-room; also with store-room for boxes in basement. 1600 square feet.

28. Duplicate and exchange room, 50 feet by 60 feet; 3000 square feet; 4000 linear feet of shelving. Easy connection with packing-room and with stack.

29. Binding department, 2400 square feet, with stock-room, 250 square feet.

30. Printing office, 1200 square feet. Stock-room, 200 square feet.

31. Business superintendent's office, 400 square feet, two rooms, safe in one. To be on the main floor, near the entrance.

32. The reception-rooms, one for staff, 600 square feet. One for visitors, 600 square feet.

33. Women's room for visitors, 200 square feet, with lavatory.

34. Lunch-rooms, one for boy and attendants, one for librarians and assistant librarians, etc. Basement, 800 square feet.

35. Two cloak and parcel rooms, 600 square feet. To be in main hall.

36. Stock and store room, general. 400 square feet.

37. Eight or 10 rooms of about 200 square feet each, for store-rooms and special work-rooms — 1600 square feet.

38. Public telephone room, 60 square feet. Main hall.

39. Engineers' department. — Boiler-rooms, dynamo-room, workshop, engine-room, living-rooms for janitor — 30,000 square feet.

40. Lecture-room, to seat about 600; 4000 square feet.

41. Class-room, to seat about 150; 850 square feet. To be near the director's room.

42. Lavatories for staff and the public on main and second floors.

43. Elevators, two or more, for use of public in main hall; one in administrative portion; book-lifts.

## PORTRAIT INDEX.

PRELIMINARY LIST OF BOOKS TO BE INDEXED.

*Continued.*

**Eclectic magazine.*
Ellet. Queens of American society. Ph. 1867.
English art in the public galleries of London. 1888.
*English illustrated magazine.*
*Etcher.* L. 1879–83.
*Eton portrait gallery. L. 1876.
**European magazine.*
Ewald. Disraeli and his times. 2 v. L. 1882.
*Fea. Flight of the king. L. 1897.
Ferris. Great leaders. N. Y. 1889.
*Fine art quarterly review.* 1866–67.
Fiske. Amer. revolution. Illus. ed. B. 1896.
*Fitzgerald. The Kembles. 2 v.
Fontenoy. Revelation of high life. 1892.
*Foppen's Bibliotheca Belgica. Brux. 1739.
Fournel. Les artistes français contemporains. 1884.
**La France illustré.*
*Freherus. Theatrum. 1688.
Galerie contemporaine littéraire et artistique. 2 v. P. 187–.
*Galerie historique de la revolution française. P. n. d.
Galerie hist. des hommes célebres. 13 v. P. 1805–11.
*Galleria degli antichi greci e romani. Poschiaro 1783.
*Gallery of British portraits. L. 1838.
Garrison, W: L. Story of his life. 4 v. N. Y. 1885.
Gavard. Galeries historiques de Versailles. 13 v. P. 1838.
**Gazette des beaux arts.* P. 1859–95.
*Gems of the Dresden gallery. B. 1877.
**Godey's lady's magazine.*
*Gostwick. English poets. N. Y. 1875.
* " German poets. N. Y. 1874.
*Gower. Historic galleries of England. 4 v. in 2. L. 1883.
*Graham. Annals of the earls of Stair. 2 v.
**Grand magazine.*
Granger. Biog. hist. of England. 6 v. L. 1824.
Green. Lives of the princesses of England. 6 v. L. 1850–55.
*Green bag.*
Grimm. Life of Michael Angelo. Holiday ed. 2 v. B. 1896.
*Griswold's Republican court.
*Gruyer. Voyage autour du Salon carré au Musée du Louvre. P. 1891.
Guiffrey. A. van Dyck, sa vie et son œuvre. P. 1882.
*Guizot. L'histoire de France. P. 1875.
H. B. Political sketches. L.
Hamerton. Man in art. L. 1892.
" Etching and etchers. L. 1880.
*Hamilton. Memoirs of De Grammont. L. 1885.
Hamilton palace collection. Illustrated priced catalogue. P. and L. 1882.
*Hanfstaengl. Galerie in Dresden. 6 v. Dresden 1836–51.
Hare. Story of my life. 3 v. L. 1896; 2 v. N. Y. 1896.
**Harper's monthly.*
*Harper's weekly.*
*Howard. Biographical illustrations. L. 1830.
Healy. Reminiscences of a portrait painter. Chic. 1894.
Henley *and* Walker. Century of artists. Glasgow 1889.
*Historical, biographical, literary and scientific magazine.
*Historical gallery of portraits and paintings. 3 v. L. 1835.
*Hofman. Portraits historiques des hommes illustres de Dannemark. n. p. 1746.
*Holbein. Windsor collection of. drawings by Holbein. 2 v. L. 1877.
Hole. Quasi cursores. Edin. 1884.
*Holland. Heroologia anglica.
Hollar. Portraits of celebrated courtesans. L. 1877.
Holloway. Ladies of the White House. Ph. 1886.
Hoppner. Bygone beauties. L. 1803.
Hundred greatest men. 8 v. in 4. L. 1879.
*Huart. Galerie de la presse. 3 v. P. 1839–41.
Hubert. Inventions. N. Y. 1896.
Hueffer. Ford Madox Brown. L. 1896.
Hume. Year after the Armada. L. 1896.
" Courtships of Queen Elizabeth. L. 1896.
Hunt. Lives of Amer. merchants. 2 v. N. Y. 1856.
Hutton. Portraits in plaster. N. Y. 1894.

* Have been already indexed or provided for.

*Hymans. Bruxelles à travers les âges. 2 v. Brux. 18–.
**Illustrated London news.*
*Illustrirte zeitung.*
Imperial dictionary of universal biog. 16 v. L. 1864–66.
**Imperial magazine.*
**International magazine.*
Jahrbuch der kunsthistorischen sammlung des aller höchsten kaiserhauses. 16 v. Wien 1882–95.
*Jahrbuch d. Kön. Preus. kunstsammlungen. 15 v. Berlin 1880–94.
James. Naval history of Great Britain. 6 v. L. 1886.
*Jameson. Beauties of the court of Charles II. 2 v. 1838.
Janitschek. Geschichte der deutschen malerei. Berlin 1886.
*Jefferson. Autobiography. 1890.
Jesse. Life of G. Brummell. 2 v. L. 1886.
" George Selwyn and his contemporaries. 4 v. N. Y. 1882.
Johnson. Lives of the poets; ed. by Waugh. 6 v. L. 1896.
Johnstone. Leading women of the restoration. L. 1892.
*Jones. Illustrated Amer. biography. N. Y. 1853.
Jusserand. A French ambassador at the court of Charles II. L. 1892.
*Karpeles. Geschichte der litteratur.
Kay. Series of original portraits and caricature etchings. 2 v. Edin. 1877.
*Kit Cat club. Memoirs. L. 1821.
**Knickerbocker magazine.*
**Ladies monthly museum.*
Länder Oesterreich-Ungarns in wort und bild.
Lang. Life of J. G. Lockhart. 1896.
" Pickle the spy. L. 1897.
*Laurent. Musée royal. 2 v. P. 1816.
*Lavater. Essai sur la physiognomie. 3 v.
Lee. Roman imperial profiles. L. 1874.
*Legouvé. Les hommes célèbres de l'Italie. P. 1845.
Lehmann. Men and women of the century. L. 1896.
*Lempertz. Bilder-hefte. 1853–65.
Lenbach. Zeitgenössiche bildnisse. Munchen 1896.
Lester. Gallery of illustrious Americans. N. Y. 1850.
*Les lettres et les arts.* 16 v. P. 1886–89.
Linton. Hist. of wood engraving in America. B. 1882.
" Masters of wood engraving. 1889.
Lives of British physicians. L. 1830.
Lives of British statesmen (Lardner's cabinet cyclopædia). 7 v. L. 1831–39.
*Lives of eminent . . . characters . . . in the counties of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. L. 1820.
*Livingston. Portraits of eminent Americans. 2 v. N. Y. 1853.
**Littell's living age.*
**Le Livre.*
*Lodge. Portraits of illustrious personages. 12 v. L. 1835.
**London magazine.*
*Longacre. National portrait gallery of distinguished Americans. 4 v. Phil. 1835–39.
*Lonsdale. Worthies of Cumberland. The Howards. L. 18–.
Lund *and* Anderson. Danske malede portraeter Kjob. 1895–96.
Lützow. Geschichte deutschen kupferstiches und holzschnittes. Berlin 1889.
McKay *and* Wingate. Famous Amer. actors of to-day. N. Y. 1896.
Maclise. Gallery of illustrious literary characters. L. 1873.
*McClure's magazine.*
*Magazine of American history.*
**Magazine of art.* L.
*Magazine of fine arts.* 4 v. L. 1832–34.
*Magazine of western history.*
*Mahan. Life of Nelson. 2 v. B. 1897.
*Malcolm. Lives of topographers.
*Malvasia. Felsina pittrise. Bologna 1678.
van Mander. Livre des peintres. 2 v. P. 1884.
*Marchmont and the Humes of Polworth.
*Marrini. Serie di ritratti . . . nel museo Fiorentino. 2 v. in 1. Firenze 1765.
**Massachusetts magazine.*
*Men of mark. 5 v. L. 1876–81.
*Mitchell. Amer. lands and letters. N. Y. 1897.
Modern Plutarch. 4 v. L. 1806–7.
Moke. Les splendeurs de l'art en Belgique. Brux. 1848.
*Mongez. Tableaux de la galerie de Florence et du palais Pitti. P. 1789.
*Monke. Serie di ritratti . . . nell' imperial galleria di Firenze. 4 v. Firenze 1752.

*(To be continued.)*

## THE QUESTION OF INDEXES.

In the March number of the Library journal Mr. Tillinghast suggests that the co-operation committee of the A. L. A. undertake the indexing of books. The work that this committee has done in the preparation of the "Annual literary indexes" and the "A. L. A. Index to general literature," would make it seem unadvisable to criticise their action. But it seems to me that the question of indexing books had better be left to the publishers of those books.

An index, to be of any service — unless it be of a general nature, like the "A. L. A. Index" — should be with the book or set of books to which it refers. It would be difficult for the committee to publish these indexes in such a manner that they could be conveniently placed with their respective books. This difficulty, however, might be overcome.

A more important consideration is that the responsibility of compiling a proper index should rightly rest entirely with the publisher. As it is, most publishers do not sufficiently realize their responsibility in this matter. If they find that the American Library Association is willing to relieve them of the little they do feel, I fear they will stop publishing indexes altogether. It appears to me that our energies should take a different direction. The American Library Association should endeavor to bring sufficient pressure to bear upon publishers to cause them to realize that a book that is published without an index is as incomplete as a book that is published without a cover or a title-page. When they realize this they will begin to make the indexes themselves, and thus save the American Library Association the contemplated trouble and expense.

The only way to make business men appreciate matters of this kind is through their pocket-books. As long as a publisher can demand as much for a book without an index as for a book with an index, and make as many sales of the former as of the latter, he will not go to the trouble and expense of publishing an index. But if it were generally understood among publishers that librarians often refused to buy books that were not properly indexed, they would give this question more attention. It may be impossible to refuse to keep Spencer or Huxley because they are not adequately indexed, but it is certainly possible to refuse to buy a great many books for a similar reason, and to acquaint publishers with this fact. I know of one librarian, at least, who has refused to purchase any more copies of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" on account of the abominable paper which is used in it and the high price that is charged for it.

Therefore, I would suggest, to use plain language, to institute a boycott against all books that are inadequately indexed, and while we are about it, we might extend the same treatment to those books which are poorly made. How far it will be possible to carry this boycott is a question that experience alone can solve, but I am confident that if it is pushed even a small way, and publishers are acquainted with the fact, it will be prolific of good results.

Francis D. Tandy.

## LIBRARY BENEFACTIONS OF ANDREW CARNEGIE.

The following list of the libraries founded or aided by Andrew Carnegie has been prepared by W: M. Stevenson, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Allegheny, Pa., in compiling the forthcoming "Handbook" of that library:

| | |
|---|---|
| Pittsburg, Carnegie Library and branches | $1,100,000 |
| Pittsburg, art gallery and museums, endowment fund | 1,000,000 |
| Allegheny City, Carnegie Free Library | 300,000 |
| Homestead, Carnegie Free Library (now building) | 250,000 |
| Braddock, Carnegie Free Library | 250,000 |
| Dunfermline, Scotland, Carnegie Public Library | 250,000 |
| Edinburgh, Scotland, Public Library (aided) | 250,000 |
| Johnstown, Cambria Free Library (original destroyed by flood) | 60,000 |
| Fairfield, Ia., Carnegie Free Library | 50,000 |
| Ayr, Scotland, Carnegie Public Library | 50,000 |
| Inverness, Scotland, Carnegie Library | 50,000 |
| Wick, Scotland, Carnegie Free Library | 20,000 |
| Total | $3,630,000 |

## THE NEW LIBRARY BUILDING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

That Illinois should have at its state university a library building worthy of comparison with our best university libraries is matter for state pride and a good omen for the cause of education in the great central west. Elsewhere is shown a view of the new building, which was dedicated on June 8, with an address by Mr. Melvil Dewey.

To the school of architecture of the university was assigned the task of preparing designs suitable for a library for the university, and Mr. Grant C. Miller, a recent graduate and subsequently a fellow, was the author of the plans finally selected by the trustees. Pink Minnesota sandstone forms the building material, surmounted by a red tile roof. The style is Romanesque, with a pleasant suggestion of Richardson's manner in the massive square tower and broadly-arched entrance. The main floor is reached by a few broad steps and is devoted entirely to library uses, having two large and finely-lighted reading-rooms opening to the right and left of the entrance-hall or delivery-room. The latter is surmounted by a richly-ornamented rotunda. From the delivery-desk nearly all parts of the library are in view, while the librarian's room, cloak-room, reception-room, and periodical-room open off from this central entrance-hall. Exterior ornamentation and carving, interior frescoes, mosaic floors, ornamental ironwork, balustrades and railings are artistic and pleasing in the extreme. Forced draught and an automatically regulated temperature will insure perfect ventilation and

an unvarying temperature in winter. The book-stack, forming a rear wing, and to be eventually seven stories in height, each story seven feet high, is the work of the Library Bureau. Its capacity is 150,000 v., while certain rooms in the third story, now used as offices of university administration, can, at some future time if needed, be used for the storage of books. The entire building is fireproof, and its dimensions are 167 by 113 feet, the height of the tower being 132 feet. The cost of the building, when fully completed and furnished, will be about $165,000.

Miss Katharine L. Sharp has been appointed librarian, and she will start a library school in the fall, having two assistants to aid her in her duties. Miss Sharp's work at the Armour Institute, Chicago, is too well known to call for mention here. The discontinuance of the library school at the Armour Institute has enabled the University of Illinois to secure her services. The library already has over 30,000 volumes, and will be rapidly added to, it is hoped, by biennial appropriations of $20,000.

That this new building may stand to its own and to neighboring universities in our still young and materialistic west as a promise and index of sound scholarship and high educational ideals, is the hope of all those who believe that a university or college should appeal to the world through its laboratories, its library, and the approved but unostentatious scholarship of its instructors, rather than through its ball-nine, its athletic field, or its boat-crew. Any tendency to cheap and flashy methods and any over-insistence upon quick results should be discouraged by the sight of this massive and dignified structure, built in the cause of higher education and designed to last for decades if not for centuries. PERCY F. BICKNELL.

## THE ATLANTA LIBRARY MEETING.

ON Monday, May 31, the Atlanta Woman's Club held a library meeting, at which the importance of library development in the state was forcibly presented. The meeting was preceded in the morning by the organization of a state library club, under the effective direction of Miss Wallace, of the Young Men's Library, a full report of which is given elsewhere in this issue (*see* p. 309), and the afternoon was devoted to a general library meeting under the auspices of the Woman's Club, attended by the library committee of the state federation of women's clubs, the visiting librarians, and a large number of club members.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. J. K. Ottley, president of the club, who welcomed the visitors in the name of the club and the Georgia federation. Miss Anne Wallace then introduced the program of the meeting and spoke earnestly of the modern growth of the library idea. She described what had already been done toward the development of a library movement in Georgia, and urged the necessity of co-operation in this, as in all other work.

Travelling libraries were then described in a paper by Mrs. Eugene Heard, of Middleton, chairman of the library committee of the state federation. "The American Library Association" was the subject of a paper by Mrs. Moses Wadley, of Atlanta, who urged the value of connection with the A. L. A. in all library work. Other papers presented were on "The Library of Congress," by Mrs. Burton Smith; "The need of a free public library," by Prof. C. M. Neal; and "The library and the bookseller," by F. J. Paxon. These were followed by descriptions of several libraries of the state: "The Young Men's Library, Atlanta," by James R. Nutting, president of that institution; "The state library," by Capt. Milledge, state librarian; "The Young Men's Library of Augusta," by Miss M. R. Campbell; "The Public Library of Rome," by Miss S. P. Hargrove, and "The Agnes Scott Library of Decatur," by Miss L. A. Field.

In the evening the visitors were tendered a reception by the directors of the Young Men's Library, and were welcomed to the library building by Miss Wallace, Mrs. Lowe, president of the state federation, Mrs. Ottley, and Mrs. Heard.

## PUBLICATIONS OF THE OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

The *Office International de Bibliographie* of Brussels has recently issued a catalog of the publications issued, in progress and contemplated under its auspices, which gives also a short account of its history and aims. It was formally established, as readers of the JOURNAL know, in September, 1895, by the Belgian government as the result of action taken at the first bibliographical conference held under its auspices a short time previously. The second conference will be held in Brussels, August 2 of this year, and a considerable foreign attendance is hoped for. The chief work planned, and begun, by the Office is the "Bibliographia universalis, ou repertoire bibliographique universel," a co-operative undertaking composed of a collection of special bibliographies edited by different persons under the general direction of the central office. The various parts are published separately but on uniform lines. They are without exception bibliographies of books, pamphlets, society publications or periodical articles. They are classed according to the decimal system, and are printed either directly upon cards for catalog use or in pamphlet form, so arranged that each entry may be cut out and pasted on a card of any size, thus completing or keeping up to date catalogs already established on other plans. This "Bibliographia universalis" comprised in March of the present year the following publications: "Bibliographica philosophica," issued by the Louvain Institut de Philosophie in 1895; "Bibliographica sociologica," by the Bureau Sociologique of Brussels, in 1895; "Bibliographia astronomica," by the Société d'Astronomie of Brussels, in 1896; "Bibliographica zoölogica," edited by Messrs. H. H. Field and V. Carus, and published by the Concilium Bibliographicum of Zurich since

1896; "Bibliographia medica Italia," by T. Rossi Doria, 1896; "Bibliographia anatomica," by Messrs. Field and M. E. Roth, issued by the Concilium Bibliographicum of Zurich since 1897; "Bibliographica physiologica," by C. Richet and others, issued by the Concilium Bibliographicum, 1897; "Bibliografia ostetrica e ginecologica Italiana," by T. Rossi Doria, published by the Societa di Ostetricia of Rome, 1897; and "Bibliographia Americana," being the printed card catalog of current books issued by the Publishing Section of the A. L. A., which the Office includes as the American contribution to its scheme of world bibliography. There are in preparation a "Bibliographia bibliographica," or summary of bibliographical works and periodicals; a "Bibliographia geologica," and a "Bibliographie de l'histoire de Belgique." The Office also publishes a *Bulletin de l'Institut International de Bibliographie*, of which six numbers are issued yearly, and a number of pamphlets and monographs explaining the decimal system, giving the decimal classification of various sciences, etc.

## REPORT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

THE report on the "Condition of the Library of Congress," made by the joint committee on library, and ordered printed March 3, 1897, appears as senate report no. 1573, in a substantial volume of 302 pages. It will be read with interest by all who are familiar with the present condition and future possibilites of the Congressional Library, and it contains a mass of important detail upon the subject. The plan of the new building is described in detail, and the existing arrangements of books and shelving are explained, as is the system of classification now in use. Attention is also given to the force required for proper administration, to the methods of administration and arrangement usual in other libraries, and especially to the work that should be done by a great national library. The report is wholly devoted to the stenographic minutes of the testimony given by the different persons examined by the committee as to the library, and about a third of the space is given up to the examination of the members of the American Library Association who appeared before the committee in December last. This testimony, with that of Mr. Spofford and Mr. Green, is of special interest to librarians.

Appended to the report is an interesting "comparative table of proposed force and expenditure in the Library of Congress in its new building as compared with similar service in the library of the British Museum, National Library of France, Royal Library of Prussia, and Boston Public Library." The comparison goes into many details of administration, and is especially valuable in its strong presentment of the inadequate sum allowed the Library of Congress for the purchase of books, as contrasted with the other libraries named.

## American Library Association.

*President:* W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

*Secretary:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

*Treasurer:* C. K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.

### *19th GENERAL CONFERENCE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 21 – JULY 1, 1897.*

THE final circular of the Philadelphia conference, with complete program, has been issued, as follows:

The annual conference of the American Library Association for 1897 will be held at Philadelphia, commencing June 21.

The general and special advantages of these conferences, both to the librarians and the libraries, are now so well known that many boards of trustees pay all or a part of the expenses of the librarian while in attendance. The progress in library methods has been so great within the past few years that attendance on these meetings is necessary for any librarian who wishes to keep up with this advance.

Under the management of Mr. George A. Macbeth, trustee of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, the Trustees' Section will be reorganized and placed on a permanent basis, thus bringing into closer relationship the governing body and the working force of the library, giving an increased interest in the success of the work. The librarians are urged to bring this matter before the members of their boards of trustees, as increased interest on their part will inure to the benefit of the library.

It is expected that the Philadelphia conference will be one of great interest and value, as questions of the future policy of the A. L. A. will be considered, especially with regard to increase of membership, representative membership, reincorporation under the laws of the United States, and the establishment of a permanent headquarters for the display and preservation of the publications and property of the association.

At this meeting the association will also hold some of its sessions in sections, thus giving opportunity for more specialized consideration of some subjects.

The local committee, with Mr. John Thomson, of the Free Library of Philadelphia, as chairman, have worked faithfully to make the meeting a success from the social standpoint and with due regard to comfort. The visitors will be cordially welcomed, and every facility will be given for the inspection of places of interest, in addition to libraries and historical points.

PROGRAM.

*Monday evening, June* 21. — Social gathering at the University of Pennsylvania with salutation from Dr. William Pepper.

*Tuesday morning, June* 22. — Address by the president.

Report of the secretary.

Report of the recorder.

Report of the treasurer, including necrology.

Report of the committee on finance, James L. Whitney, chairman.

Report of the trustees of the endowment fund, C. C. Soule, chairman.

Report of the publishing section, W. I. Fletcher, chairman.

Report of the committee on co-operation, W. H. Tillinghast, chairman.

Report of the committee on public documents, R. R. Bowker, chairman.

Report of the committee on foreign documents, C. H. Gould, chairman.

Report of the committee of "The Dr. William F. Poole Memorial Fund," G. E. Wire, secretary.

*Tuesday afternoon.* — Books of the year, Miss Mary S. Cutler.

Sociology.

Science.

Fine arts, Miss Hannah P. James.

History, J. N. Larned.

Fiction, Miss Helen E. Haines.

Children, Miss Caroline M. Hewins.

*Tuesday evening.* — Public meeting. Addresses by Mr. Melvil Dewey, Mr. F. M. Crunden, Prof. Albert H. Smyth, and others.

*Wednesday morning, June* 23. — Two meetings will be held simultaneously in different halls, for which the following programs have been arranged.

College and reference library work conducted by Mr. W. I. Fletcher, librarian Amherst College and chairman of the College Section.

1. Opening remarks by Mr. Fletcher.

2. Government and control of college libraries. Opening remarks by G. W. Harris, librarian Cornell University.

3. Selection of books for the college library. Opening remarks by Alfred C. Potter, assistant in charge of the ordering department, Harvard College Library.

4. A bit of classification: treatment of Harvardiana by the Harvard Club of New York City, contributed by C. Alex. Nelson, deputy librarian, Columbia University.

5. College instruction in bibliography.

Elementary session, in charge of Dr. G. E. Wire, Evanston, Ill., and Miss Linda A. Eastman, assistant librarian, Cleveland Public Library.

1. Classification, Dr. Wire.

2. Cataloging, Miss L. E. Benedict, librarian, Lewis Institute, Chicago.

3. Charging systems, Miss Helen Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

4. Book selection, Miss Elizabeth P. Andrews, Library School, Albany, N. Y.

Meeting of the Trustees' Section, G. A. Macbeth, chairman.

*Wednesday afternoon.* — Ride to the Wissahickon.

*Wednesday evening.* — Reception and concert at Drexel Institute.

*Thursday morning, June* 24. — Election of officers.

Report of the committee on travelling libraries, John Thomson, chairman.

Travelling libraries, by F. A. Hutchins.

Policy of the American Library Association with regard to reincorporation under the laws of the United States, and with regard to representative membership. Discussion opened by Melvil Dewey.

Proposed building for New York Public Library, with plans, Dr. John S. Billings, librarian.

*Thursday afternoon.* — Report of the committee on state aid, J. H. Whittier, chairman.

Report of the committee on co-operation with Library Department of National Educational Association, J. C. Dana, chairman.

Report of the committee on library editions of popular books, C. R. Dudley, chairman.

Report of the committee on library schools.

Report of the committee on gifts and bequests, Caroline M. Hewins, chairman.

Report of the committee on American libraries clearing house, R. G. Thwaites, chairman.

Publisher and importer, Ernst Lemcke.

*Thursday evening.* — Methods of children's library work as determined by the needs of children, Rev. Edwin M. Fairchild, Miss Emma L. Adams.

Discussion.

Development of the subscription into the free library, F. M. Crunden, J. N. Larned, and others.

The literature of libraries, F. J. Teggart.

*Friday morning, June* 25. — Two programs, as on Wednesday morning.

College and reference libraries, conducted by Dr. Ernest C. Richardson, librarian, Princeton University.

1. The survival of the fittest among books, Dr. Richardson.

2. Index prospects and possibilities, W. I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library.

3. The London International Conference on a catalog of scientific literature, Cyrus Adler, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

4. Co-operative printing of analytical reference lists, Dr. J. S. Billings, New York Library; G. H. Baker, Columbia University Library; C. W. Andrews, John Crerar Library, Chicago.

5. The care of maps (newspapers or rare books), Wilberforce Eames, Lenox Library, New York.

6. The care of mss., Herbert Friedenwald, Philadelphia.

Elementary session, in charge of Miss Eastman and Dr. Wire.

1. Librarian's aids, Miss Virginia Dodge, librarian, Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Public Library.

2. Advertising, Miss M. Emogene Hazeltine, librarian, James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N. Y.

3. Reference work, Miss Eleanor B. Woodruff, reference librarian, Pratt Institute Free Library.

4. Aims and personal attitude toward the work, Miss Eastman.

On Friday afternoon the European delegation will take their departure, and those going upon the American post-conference trip will start on Saturday.

The first informal session will be a reception at the University of Pennsylvania, on Monday

evening, and all but two of the other sessions will be held at the Drexel Institute.

The Aldine Hotel, on Chestnut street, with accommodations for 600, has been selected as headquarters. Rates $2.50 per day. Mr. John Thomson, librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia, 1217 Chestnut street, chairman of the local committee, Philadelphia, will reserve rooms at this hotel, or elsewhere, if notified. Good hotel accommodations and boarding-houses can be had convenient to place of meeting.

TRANSPORTATION.

A rate of one and a third fare for the round trip on the certificate plan has been made by all roads. Persons attending the conference will pay full fare going, and take from the ticket agent a certificate, which, when signed by the secretary and joint agent of the railroad at the meeting, will entitle the holder to return over the same route for one-third regular fare. Certificates must be deposited with the secretary of the A. L. A. by nine o'clock Wednesday morning, June 23. The certificates will be accepted in Philadelphia for the return trip up to and including July 3.

If local agent is not provided with certificates, buy a ticket to the nearest town that has them. The local agent will give this information.

*The certificate must be procured or there will be no reduction in fare.*

POST-CONFERENCE.

Philadelphia to the Delaware Water Gap and return is estimated to cost from $22 to $25. The railway fare will be $1.74, and the rate at the Kittatinny house will be $2.75 per day, and if any desire to remain over Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, including the Fourth of July, they can do so at the same rate.

*NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.*

MR. EDMUND M. BARTON, librarian of the American Antiquarian Society, has been appointed a member of the European trip committee in place of W. I. Fletcher, who is unable to attend the International Conference.

MR. GARDNER M. JONES, secretary of the European trip committee, has received the following letter from the chairman of the reception committee of the Second International Library Conference:

"May 25, 1897.

"The Library, Guildhall, E. C.

"DEAR SIR: I have much pleasure in informing you that the reception committee have secured invitations for the American visitors for a reception here on July 12, and then at the Mansion House (by the Lord Mayor) on July 13, and for a special performance of 'The Merchant of Venice' at the Lyceum Theatre on July 15. These invitations will be awaiting your party on arrival, as I think that will be a more convenient arrangement than posting them on to you for distribution.

"I am very faithfully yours,

EDWARD M. BORRAJO."

CHANGE IN TIME OF SAILING.

Special attention is called to the fact that the time of sailing of the *Cephalonia*, with the Philadelphia delegation, has been changed from seven a.m. to *five p.m.* Saturday, June 26. This will allow those who wish, to leave Philadelphia at 1:30 Friday, arriving in New York at four, connecting with the Fall River line steamer leaving at 5:30 and due at Boston at seven o'clock Saturday morning.

Special rates have been obtained for the party for the trip from Philadelphia to Boston, as to which information will be given in ample time.

INVITATION FROM THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

The general secretary of the Institut International de Bibliographie has communicated to the president of the A. L. A., under date of May 19, a formal invitation to all members of the A. L. A. who will attend the London conference to be present also at the second bibliographical conference of the Institut, which will be held at Brussels, August 2, instead of June 27, as originally announced. The date finally chosen will permit those attending the London meeting to go from England to Brussels without inconvenience. All details of arrangement will be made by the officers of the Institut with those in charge of the London congress, and it is hoped that a considerable representation may be secured for the Brussels meeting.

*CORRECTION TO PROCEEDINGS.*

THE following statement should have appeared in the proceedings of the Cleveland conference, p. 78, second column, just before the words, "A meeting of the council was called, to be held at the close of this session": "The president announced that the A. L. A. council had organized, by the election of Mr. S. S. Green, president, and Mr. W. E. Foster, secretary, and that it was now ready for any business to be referred to it."

*SPECIAL INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS.*

A FEW copies of the special index to the Cleveland proceedings remain on hand, and will be sent to librarians for insertion in bound volumes of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, on receipt of a two-cent stamp to cover postage.

C: ALEX. NELSON, *Recorder*, 1896.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE May meeting of the association was "Ladies' night," the topic being "Woman in the service of the public library." The opening paper was by Miss Emily I. Wade, on "Woman as trustee." Miss Wade affirmed that from the beginning of history there had been conspicuous instances of rare executive and administrative ability among women; "that strong-mindedness is not inconsistent with womanliness, nor individuality necessarily eccentricity." Numerous instances were cited where women have served as library trustees with success, and the duties of trustees were carefully analyzed to show that there were none that women might not perform as efficiently as men. "But the board should not be made up of women only. Those composed of one sex entirely partake of the same kind of narrowness that would distinguish a board of one religious sect or one political party. The association of clear-minded men and thoughtful women would be an ideal board. Each needs the stimulus as well as the restraint of the other. A man's mind sees the subject, woman's takes in the detail."

Miss C. G. Hancock, of the Sacramento Public Library, in her paper on "Woman as librarian," spoke with a background of 18 years' experience. In her opinion there should be no question of sex in the choice of a librarian. "If there is any place where fitness should be the requisite it is in the position of librarian. Whatever difference there seems to be in the characteristics of men and women is due, I think, to education more than nature. Woman's education and environment develop some of the innate qualities that are latent in all mankind in a greater degree than in man."

"Woman at the delivery-desk," by Miss Lily Cole, was a breezy account of the duties at this most important post; Miss Cole showing that she fully appreciated the responsibilities of this trying position with its endless demands on the patience, sympathy, and tact of the assistant. Mrs. D. W. Gilbert gave an interesting talk on "Woman as reference librarian," and Miss Nettie Wade presented an array of statistics to show the many instances in which "Woman as benefactor" has endowed libraries. Miss J. S. Klink gave a bright, clever talk on "Woman as patron." In her paper on "Woman as cataloger" Miss Celia A. Hayward said that while much of the cataloging work was done by women, "she has no peculiar fitness for that work, or any other, in the economic world, as woman. As an individual she has fitness, if she have the necessary qualifications and qualities; otherwise not." A cataloger may not be a specialist, but must be able to arrange under proper subject headings all the work of all the specialists. "To sum up, the ideal cataloger must be one with a strong, active brain, trained to think in various lines with every-day common sense, which is not so common or so every-day as to deserve to be so called; with patience, industry, and good health, which taken altogether, does not sound so very startling. There are many women who are all this; there are many women, and some men, who are not all this; so it is, after all, if looked on without prejudice, a question of the individual and not of sex."

A paper on "Woman in library work," by Miss Tessa L. Kelso, now in New York, was read. Miss Kelso has an undoubted right to speak with authority, as she made a pronounced success in library work in California. Her paper presented the question in a vigorous manner, going straight to the point, showing the strength and weakness of women in the profession. She said: "The main point, as to the fitness of woman to administer the affairs of a large library is no different from that of her being fit to administer the affairs of any large business corporation. The primary requisites are business experience and training, executive ability of a high order, control and management of employes, and in addition to the commercial attitude toward the public, the more difficult position of being the servant of the people."

A resolution protesting against the possible removal of Mr. F. A. Crandall from the office of Superintendent of Documents was unanimously adopted, and the secretary was instructed to forward a copy to the Public Printer at Washington. The next meeting will be in September.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

THE Colorado Library Association held its regular monthly meeting in the state normal school, at Greeley, on May 11, when the following program was presented to an audience of about 400 people:

Music.....Prof. J. Q. Whiteman in charge
Welcome.....Dr. Snyder
Business of the association,
Pres. A. E. Whitaker and Sec. H. E. Richie
The Greeley Public Library.....Fred E. Smith
Your daily paper.....C. L. Stonaker
The club and the library,
Mrs. J. S. Gale and Mrs. M. D. Thatcher
The reading of school children,
Prof. J. E. Russell
The school-room libraries of North Denver,
Supt. J. H. Van Sickle
Library associations—their growth,
John Cotton Dana
The state library.....Hattie E. Stevenson

Aside from the program, Mr. Daniels, the librarian of the normal school, entertained the

visitors with exhibitions of drawings, Japanese prints, and collections of best books. In the evening the members were tendered a reception by Dr. and Mrs. Snyder. The association will hold its next meeting in Denver in October.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary*.

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

THE spring meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held on Thursday, May 27, at the Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury. The introduction of music was a pleasant innovation on the usual program, and the singing of Mr. Laplace and the violin-playing by Mr. Whyland, accompanied by Dr. Knight, of Lakeville, on the Steinway concert grand piano in the auditorium of the library building, were much enjoyed by the audience. The afternoon session at 2:30 was opened by a short address of welcome by the Rev. Mr. George, of Salisbury. The president of the association, Frank B. Gay, gave a summary of Connecticut's library progress during the last few months. Miss C. M. Hewins gave a report of the work of the public library commission. 39 towns have availed themselves of the law granting state aid to free libraries. The second report of the commission, which has just been published, contains a colored map showing the distribution of libraries in the state.

A paper of Mrs. M. H. G. Banks on "Library organization" was read in her absence by Miss Hadley, of Ansonia. Mrs. Banks has just finished classifying the Springfield City Library, and now has a position in the New York Public Library. Miss Elizabeth Van Hoevenberg followed with an account of the work of reorganizing the Ferguson Library, Stamford, in which she is now engaged.

After a general discussion of the subject, the Rev. W. R. Eastman, inspector of New York's travelling libraries, spoke of the library system of that state, especially in regard to assisting small libraries and clubs. Lantern slides and expensive art photographs as well as supplementary reading-matter is furnished the schools of the state for a small fee. 351 towns have public libraries, but there are 589 without them.

H. L. Elmendorf, recently back from England, brought news of the welcome that English librarians are preparing for the A. L. A. He spoke of the 76 travelling libraries in Philadelphia for the use of the employes of the city.

Miss Mary E. Robbins, of Lakeville, who has had large experience in library work, then read a paper describing some western libraries which she visited during a recent library tour.

Supper was served in the assembly-room by the ladies of Salisbury and Lakeville.

The evening session at 8 o'clock was opened by music.

Rev. John Calvin Goddard, of the Salisbury Congregational Church, read a valuable paper on "Methods of exciting interest in books." An illustration of the interest latent in common things was the road which passes the doors of the Scoville Memorial Library; Ethan Allen and Washington have passed over it; the great chain which stretched across the Hudson in Revolutionary days and the iron for the frigate *Constitution* had been dragged over it; and the famous trotting mare, Flora Temple, made her first speed upon it. He recommended the study of nature, saying that all the poets and prophets have been brought up out of doors. Mr. Goddard also counselled the study of humanity.

Miss Dotha Stone Pinneo, of the Norwalk Public Library, read a critical paper on "The fiction of to-day." She compared the fiction of to-day with that of the generation of Dickens and Thackeray, especially in regard to its influence on the reading public. The conclusion was reached that while we have wonderful stylists, excitement and a fertile play of imagination, we are wanting in creative force; there is much talent but no genius in the writers of to-day. All the representative writers of the various schools were cleverly characterized and weighed. Tolstoi and Sienkiewicz, the greatest imaginative writers of to-day, are not of English blood.

In the absence of George S. Godard, who was to have made an address, the program concluded with some delightful stories told by W. L. Harden, of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., which he had heard from well-known authors at the firesides of New York clubs.

Prof. D. N. Camp, of New Britain, offered a resolution of thanks for the generous hospitality of the Scoville Memorial Library and the people of Salisbury.

Some of the librarians were entertained on Thursday morning by drives among the picturesque hills and lakes of Salisbury. The town has had a circulating library since before the Revolution, and the archives of the Scoville Library contain relics of that first library in the shape of the quaint old charging-book, with its records of fines for soiling the books with snuff and candle-grease, and a number of the books of the original library.

ANGELINE SCOTT, *Secretary*.

*GEORGIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

*Treasurer:* Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

PURSUANT to a call issued by Miss Anne Wallace, librarian of the Young Men's Library of Atlanta, there convened at that library Monday, May 31, a number of librarians and others interested in library work to organize a state library club.

Miss Wallace called the meeting to order, and nominated Miss L. A. Field, of the Agnes Scott Institute, Decatur, Ga., as temporary chairman. Miss Field then called for the nomination of a temporary secretary, and Miss Julia T. Rankin was elected. Miss Wallace, in stating the reason for calling together the meeting, said: "In this day of united brotherhoods it is timely that

the Georgia librarians organize a library club for the mutual benefit of the librarians of the state. Now each library is working for itself and by itself. The best work can only be obtained through co-operation, when each library reaps the benefit of the other's experience. For years this spirit of mutual help in matters of administrative detail was fostered in the national association; now such work is being done by the state clubs, the A. L. A. devoting its program more to the ethical side of the library question. State clubs are now essential to library growth. The establishment of such a club in Georgia was first discussed at the conference of women librarians held in Atlanta during the Cotton States and International Exposition of 1895. The failure to organize was due to the great distances between the libraries, the lack of any vacation for the librarians, the starvation salaries, and the want of competent assistants to leave in charge during the necessary absence of the librarian. Whether these difficulties can be overcome remains to be seen, but until the librarians of the state can work in harmony and co-operation our library interests must suffer. The time has come when some steps must be taken to awaken interest in library circles and to stimulate librarians to emulation in the matters of library administration."

A permanent organization was then effected, and the following officers were unanimously elected: President, Miss Anne Wallace, Atlanta; Vice-presidents, Mrs. Moses Wadley, Augusta, Judge Wm. Harden, Savannah, Mrs. J. K. Ottley, Atlanta, Chancellor W. E. Boggs, University of Georgia, Mr. J. Harris Chappell, Milledgeville, Hon. Price Gilbert, Columbus, Mrs. Eugene Heard, Middleton, Hon. T. A. Reid, Macon, Mrs. John C. Printup, Rome; Secretary, Charles W. Hubner, Atlanta; Treasurer, Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

Among the prominent women present was Mrs. Moses Wadley, of Augusta, who is an enthusiastic friend to the library movement. Mrs. Wadley, who is a director of the Augusta Library, spoke of the great need of a state library club and urged the organization.

Mrs. J. K. Ottley, president of the Atlanta Woman's Club, spoke of the work being done by the library committee of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and paid a pleasant tribute to Mrs. Eugene Heard, the progressive and active chairman of that committee.

The club adjourned after accepting an invitation from the city of Macon to hold its first business meeting in Macon, Oct. 28–29, 1897.

The following is a list of the members of the Georgia Library Club: J. R. Nutting, President Y. M. L. A., Atlanta; F. J. Paxon, Director, Atlanta; Mrs. Burton Smith, Atlanta; Miss L. P. Hargrove, Rome; Mrs. Nora L. Barbrey, Macon; Miss Nina Halstead, Columbus; Wm. Horden, Savannah; Miss Mary R. Campbell, Augusta; Miss Julia T. Rankin, Atlanta; Miss Sarah Frierson, Athens; Mrs. Enoch Callaway, La Grange; Mrs. H. S. Smith, Newnan; Mrs. E. G. McCabe, Atlanta; Mrs. Awtry, La Grange; Mrs. Necker, Cartersville; Mrs. W. B. Lowe, Atlanta; Mrs. Boykin Robinson, Social Circle; Mrs. George C. Ball, Atlanta.

In the afternoon the club was entertained by the Atlanta Woman's Club, and participated in the general library meeting held under the auspices of the former body and reported elsewhere (*see* p. 304).

### *ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

THE spring meeting of the Illinois Library Association was held May 13, in the assembly-room of the Peoria Public Library. It was largely attended, visitors being present from all parts of the state. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by J. N. Thompson, president of the Association, and E. W. Willcox, librarian of the Peoria library, welcomed the visitors in a few cordial words. The president's address, which followed, on "Our duties and responsibilities," was a vigorous presentation of the need of effective library work in the state, and an appeal for deeper realization of the personal responsibility that each worker has to his or her work.

"The boy and the book," and the relation each should have to the other, were then presented by Mrs. J. H. Resor, of the Canton Public Library, who showed what could be done for boys with the assistance of good books, and the interest taken in the subject by librarians.

Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson, of the University of Chicago, followed with an account of "Teaching library science by university extension methods," describing the methods pursued in the several classes conducted by her. "Literary clubs, reference work, and special lists" were treated by Miss Evva L. Moore in a paper that abounded in helpful hints and suggestions. This was followed by business announcements, reports of libraries, and an informal discussion of subjects presented by different members, and adjournment was then taken until two o'clock.

The afternoon session opened with a practical demonstration in library training as carried on at Armour Institute. Miss Sharp first described the study of loan systems, charging and issuing books, etc. The subject of cataloging was then presented by Miss Margaret Mann, who was followed by Miss Marvin on reference work. This exposition was thoroughly practical and of general interest.

At this point in the proceedings a telegram arrived from the state legislature, stating that the library commission bill had been again reported adversely, and was lost for this time.

The next topic was "University and college libraries and their relation to the library movement of to-day," by Percy F. Bicknell, of the University of Illinois, who was followed by Prof. Louis F. Galbreath, of the Normal University, who spoke upon "Books for various grades," urging the systematic consideration of

the problems to be solved in supplying the best reading for school use.

At the close of Prof. Galbreath's address, business matters came up for discussion, the report of the treasurer was presented, and a committee was appointed to solicit gifts or subscriptions to a fund for the use of the association in its work. Miss Ahern then spoke of the admirable conduct of the public documents office in Washington, under Mr. Crandall's direction, and offered a resolution vigorously protesting against Mr. Crandall's removal from office. The resolution was unanimously adopted. Another resolution, expressing the deep regret of the association at the failure of the legislature to pass the state commission bill, and urging renewed effort in behalf of the measure, was passed, as was a resolution appointing a committee of three to compile statistical information as to the libraries of the state.

The evening session was called to order at 8 o'clock, and was opened with an address of welcome by R. C. Grier, president of the Peoria Public Library board, to which President Thompson made response.

Mrs. Clara P. Bourland then presented a paper on "Women's clubs and their relation to the public library movement," which was followed by "The ideal library trustee" as described by J. Seymour Curry, and "The ideal library," from the point of view of Rev. Dr. Caspar Wistar Hiatt. President Thompson, in a few well-chosen words, then declared the business of the day at an end, and after a unanimous resolution of thanks to the Peoria Library Association and its officers, the meeting was declared adjourned.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street, Chicago, Ill.

*IOWA LIBRARY SOCIETY.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Lana D. Cope, State Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

On the principle that meetings held in totally different localities will awaken most widespread interest, the May meeting of the association was held at Keene, in the southwestern part of the state, and though pouring rain prevented large attendance and full enjoyment of the charming region, the occasion was exceedingly pleasant and profitable.

The meeting was called to order in the Y. M. C. A. ladies' parlor, at 2 p.m., by the new president, Mr. A. H. Chase, state librarian, who announced an opportunity for any one in attendance to present their name for membership.

After this preliminary business, the program was opened with an admirable paper by Mr. F. W. Faxon, of the Boston Book Co., on the double subject, "Periodicals in libraries" and "Methods in English libraries." Mr. Faxon spoke like the expert that he is, and after his paper answered numerous questions regarding purchasing, collating, binding, the best helps to the study of periodical literature, etc. Mr. Faxon's comparison of English library methods with the American was most interesting, especially as the points of difference were largely in our favor. It was a privilege to see Mr. Faxon's exhibit of plates, cards, regulations, etc., secured at the English libraries.

The other paper of the meeting was by Prof. M. D. Bisbee, of Dartmouth College, upon "The function of the library in the education of life." His words were eloquent, broad and deep, and made each one present feel that in the library profession also there is now no such thing as a "finished education," and that "graduation to-day merely means promotion." Prof. Bisbee instanced the Brooklyn Institute as a wonderful illustration of what may be done, and what every other town, in its measure, should do.

In the evening an informal meeting was held. Mr. Faxon responded to the general desire to hear more of his English experiences, and the group, seated in one large family circle, was loath to adjourn.

GRACE BLANCHARD, *Secretary.*

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* J: B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.
*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

THE New York Library Association held its annual western meeting at Rochester, on Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15. The sessions were held in the common council chamber of the city hall. The first session was opened on Friday afternoon at 2 p.m. with an address of welcome by Dr. E. M. Moore, president of the trustees of the University of Rochester. A. L. Peck, president of the association, responded in a short address, in which he pointed out the notable advance of library interests in New York state, and expressed his conviction that "the law should make provision for the maintenance of libraries in exactly the same manner as it now provides for schools. Library boards should have the same power and obligations as school boards. Imagine for a moment our public schools maintained by subsidies, occasionally passing the hat, and always threatened by abolishment."

W. R. Eastman, secretary of the association, then presented a review of "The library situation in West Central New York." He reported that in eight counties, containing the cities of Rochester, Hornellsville, Corning, and Geneva and 53 villages with a population of 509,000, are 121 libraries, of which 52 are free for circulation, 86 are school libraries, and only 21 libraries separate from the schools are free. Of 146 towns, 72 have no library. The best libraries receive little or nothing from local taxation, but the value of any library is greatly increased if recognized as a public necessity.

The subject of "village libraries" was then discussed by several speakers. H. K. Armstrong, president of the Penn Yan Public Library, answered in the affirmative, from practical experience, the question "Can the average village afford a public library?" "The ways and means of library support" and "State aid to libraries" were also considered and illustrated from practical experience, although the two speakers who were to have presented those subjects — Mrs. A. M. Dean, of the Montour Falls Free Library, and Melvil Dewey — were unable to be present.

Miss Julia C. Hopkins, reference librarian of the Reynolds Library, Rochester, followed with an interesting paper on "The value of a trained librarian in a small library." The chief points in which a trained worker's effectiveness is most clearly shown is in the "knowing how" to take up and carry on the administration of a library effectively and economically, and in not wasting time, strength, and money in the slow accumulation of knowledge by experience.

The evening session opened at eight o'clock, with an address on "What a public library may do for a large city," by W. H. Brett, of the Cleveland Public Library. Mr. Brett thought it well in the government of public libraries to make the relations of the library and the public a matter of honor rather than of rule. Open shelves were, in a way, an appeal to the honor of the individual, and an experiment toward making the proper use of books a matter of honor among children had recently been started in the Cleveland Public Library in the formation of the "Library league" for boys and girls.

Prof. W. C. Morey, of the University of Rochester, then read a paper on "The Rochester libraries," describing the four leading libraries of Rochester. These are the Central Library, the law library of the Court of Appeals, the Reynolds Library, and the library of the University of Rochester, the first two being supported by taxation, and the others by endowment and private efforts.

In the discussion that followed, J. N. Larned, of Buffalo, told of the recent transformation of the proprietary Buffalo Library to the free circulating Buffalo Public Library, for the support of which the city is to pay $57,000 this year. Hon. Charles E. Fitch, chairman of the Regents board of university extension, spoke of the remarkable advance of library interests in two decades, tending to resolve the aristocracy of libraries into a democracy. Rev. W. R. Taylor spoke of the library as the distributor of wealth gathered from wide reaches of country and time.

The closing session of the meeting was held at nine o'clock on Saturday morning. The subject of "Study clubs and reading circles in their relation to public libraries" was presented by Miss Myrtilla Avery, chairman of the library committee of the state federation of women's clubs, who outlined a plan for an organization covering the state for the promotion of public libraries as an essential to all literary work and a most important means of public usefulness. Miss Richardson, of Ilion, read a paper by Miss Hazeltine, of Jamestown, regarding club work in that city, and a number of members reported experiences of similar work and spoke of the value of co-operation with the clubs.

In the concluding discussion a lively debate arose over the place that should be accorded to books of imagination in children's reading. It was evoked by a protest against "wasting children's time on foolish, untrue, nonsensical reading such as fairy tales and much of the current fiction," and it demonstrated that the "Gradgrind" theory was not generally approved of. A committee on legislation was appointed, and soon after the discussion the meeting adjourned.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.
*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.
*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

THE Ohio Library Association committee on co-operation with the state teachers' association has been given space on the program of the latter association at its annual meeting, to be held in Toledo June 29–July 1. One session, on July 1, will be given up to the committee. At this meeting the subject of co-operation between schools and libraries will be strongly presented, and efforts will be made toward the establishment of a library section of the state teachers' association.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.
*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

THE May meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held on invitation of the trustees of the Apprentices' Library in the handsome new quarters of that library, at Broad and Brandywine streets. The meeting was well attended, between 60 and 70 members being present. It was unanimously resolved to appropriate $15 as a club subscription to the Poole memorial fund. Various reports were made from the chair, among which was the announcement that as a result of the recent meetings at Atlantic City and Reading a free public library was agreed upon to be established at Atlantic City, and the prospects of obtaining one in Reading had very considerably improved. The amendments proposed in the senate on the tariff bill were considered, and it was felt that the efforts of the Free Library to bring about this amendment deserved cordial recognition. The proposal to change the day of the regular monthly meeting from Monday to Tuesday was negatived, but it was resolved to hold seven regular meetings hereafter in each year instead of five.

The chairman then introduced Mr. Henry Hanby Hay, of Girard College, who delivered an eloquent and very interesting address on "Macbeth," in which he analyzed the play. Whether his hearers fully agreed with him or not, they seemed much interested, and a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Hay for the entertainment he had afforded.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.
*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

THE May meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the lecture-rooms of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh on the evening of May 20. Instead of the usual program, the club and its invited guests had the pleasure of listening to a lecture on "English literature before Chaucer," delivered by Samuel Harden Church, author of the well-known work on Oliver Cromwell.

A short business session was held after the lecture, at which officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny; Vice-presidents, Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock, and Mrs. Julia Blair, Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny; Secretary-treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

This constituted the last meeting of the year, the next regular meeting coming on the second Thursday of November.

W: R: WATSON, *Secretary-treasurer.*

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.
*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.
*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.
*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.
*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.
*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

A MEETING of the executive committee of the Chicago Library Club was held April 22, to protest against the tariff on books provided by the Dingley bill, and also to take action against the removal of Mr. Crandall from his position as Superintendent of Public Documents.

Vigorous letters of protest were drawn up and sent to the senators from Illinois.

MARGARET MANN, *Secretary.*

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

MISS L. E. STEARNS tendered a dinner to the members of the Round Table on May 24, in honor of her successor, Miss Mary Louise Stillman. A paper by the Rev. E. M. Fairchild, on "Methods of library work for the children," was read and discussed.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* T: W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 24th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, May 26, 1897. This meeting is the last one for the season.

The resignation of Miss Adelaide R. Hasse from the executive committee was accepted with regret. Miss Hasse carries the best wishes of the association with her to her new post in the New York Public Library.

A committee of three members was appointed to consider the feasibility of having an exhibition of rare books.

Miss Margaret C. Dyer then read a very interesting account of "The first library conference in Australia."

Mr. Oliver L. Fassig's paper was entitled "Contributions to an index to the literature of meteorology," and commanded the earnest attention of his hearers. The subject being one to which he has devoted the most of his time for a number of years, he was particularly well qualified to speak upon it. An abstract of Mr. Fassig's paper is given elsewhere.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE school year will close June 18. The following subjects have been covered by original bibliographies and theses, submitted as part of the conditions for graduation by the present class:

BIBLIOGRAPHIES.

History of the latter half of the 15th century. (Reading list.) Etheldred Abbot.

Renaissance art. (Reading list.) Anne S. Ames and Elizabeth P. Andrews.

Cycling. Louise Langworthy.

Practical philanthropy through scientific study: outlines and references for a two-years' course. Isabel E. Lord.

Index to subject bibliographies in library bulletins. Alice Newman.

Minor American poets, from 1860–date. (Select.) Bessie S. Smith.

The Netherlands. (Reading list.) Elisabeth G. Thorne.

Tramps and vagrants. Lucy D. Waterman.

THESES.

Recent translators of literature, biography, and travel. Etheldred Abbot.

Debatable land. Anne S. Ames.

Fiction in libraries: with suggestions for a black list and a stepping-stone list. Elizabeth P. Andrews.

Advantages and disadvantages of the classed catalog. Louise Langworthy.

The librarian and modern literature: with a suggested course of reading in preparation for the Library School. Isabel E. Lord.

The librarian and standard literature: with a suggested course of reading in preparation for the Library School. Alice Newman and Lucy D. Waterman.

Music in libraries. Bessie S. Smith.

Modern American illustrators. Elisabeth G. Thorne.

Eight or nine of the school will attend the meeting of the American Library Association in Philadelphia. MARY SALOME CUTLER.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY, June 4, 1897.

## Reviews.

THWAITES, Reuben Gold, *ed.* The Jesuit relations and allied documents: travels and explorations of the Jesuit missionaries in New France, 1610–1791; the original French, Latin, and Italian texts, with English translations and notes. v. 1–6. Cleveland, The Burrows Bros Co., 1896–1897. 6 v. O.

The publication in collected form of "The Jesuit relations and allied documents," lately begun through the enterprise of the Burrows Brothers Company, of Cleveland, is one of the most important undertakings of the century in the field of American history. Mr. Reuben Gold Thwaites, secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, is the editor, and his name is ample guarantee that the work will be well performed. The plan of the new edition includes upwards of 200 letters and relations, which it is estimated will fill over 60 volumes, covering a period of nearly two centuries, from 1610 to 1791. The original French, Latin, and Italian texts are reproduced with fidelity, and they are accompanied in each case by an English translation on opposite pages. Historical and geographical notes are added, and full bibliographical details are supplied. There are also maps, portraits, and numerous fac-similes of title-pages.

The six volumes already issued contain 23 documents. Beginning with the introduction, a concise sketch is given of early explorations in Canada, and of the establishment of the different missions. Volume 1 (Acadia, 1610–13) contains the earliest documents on the Port Royal mission, including Lescarbot's "Conversion des sauvages en la Nouvelle France," Bertrand's "Lettre missive," on the same subject, and letters of Pierre Biard, Ennemond Massé, and Joseph Jouvency. Other letters of Biard and the valuable "Relation derniere" of Lescarbot follow in vol. 2 (Acadia, 1612–14). The first portion of Biard's detailed "Relation de la Nouvelle France," Lyons, 1616, is printed in vol. 3

(Acadia, 1611–16), and the concluding portion in vol. 4 (Acadia and Quebec, 1616–29), which also contains five letters of Charles Lalemant on the new mission at Quebec. Vol. 5 (Quebec, 1632–33) opens with Paul Le Jeune's "Brieve relation" of 1632 — the first of the regular series — and closes with the first portion of his Relation of 1633, which is concluded in vol. 6 (Quebec, 1633–34), where the Relation of 1634 begins.

The succeeding volumes will continue the history of the missions at Quebec, and at Montreal from its founding in 1642; the missions among the Hurons from 1634 to their ruin and dispersion in 1649–50; among the Tobacco Nation and the Neutrals from 1639; among the Montagnais and on the Kennebec from 1646; and in other places farther north and west. The first Iroquois mission was in 1642; Jogues was martyred in 1646, and Brébeuf and Lalemant met the same fate in 1649. In 1641 the Ottawa mission was started at Sault Ste. Marie, and it was continued among the Illinois until the middle of the next century. The Louisiana mission lasted from 1698 to about 1770. The documents which are to follow have been gathered from all available sources. In addition to the entire series of original Cramoisy Relations, there will be incorporated the whole of the series published by Dr. Shea, the O'Callaghan reprints, the "Journal des Jésuits," the "Relations inédites de la Nouvelle-France, 1672–79," selections from the "Lettres édifiantes," many privately-printed letters and relations, and much material from unpublished manuscripts. Beginning with the sixth volume, the bibliographical data will be revised by Mr. Victor H. Paltsits, of the Lenox Library staff.

It is now just 50 years since Dr. O'Callaghan called attention to the Relations and to their value as material for history. In his paper read before the New York Historical Society in 1847, and printed in the same year as a separate pamphlet, he says: "No historian can enter fully into an investigation of the circumstances attendant on the first settlement of this country without being conversant with them, and those who pretend to acquit themselves of such a task without previously studying these works afford only a proof of their unfitness for the duty." Parkman also speaks of the high place they hold as authentic and trustworthy historical documents. "With regard," he says, "to the condition and character of the primitive inhabitants of North America, it is impossible to exaggerate their value as an authority;" and he thinks "it is wonderful that they have been left so long in obscurity."

The regular series of Relations, as originally printed by the Cramoisys at Paris, comprises 41 volumes, containing the annual reports sent by the superior of the missions in Canada to the provincial of the order in France, from 1632 to 1672, inclusive. Dr. O'Callaghan's essay was the earliest monograph on the subject, and in it he gives a *catalogue raisonnée*, with a table showing in what collections, public and private, copies could then be found. A revised edition of this table was printed in 1853, as a separate broadside. From the first list it appears that in 1847 Mr. John Carter Brown owned 37, Harvard College 35, Henry C. Murphy 29, Hon. Albert Gallatin 20, Rev. Mr. Plante 20, and others a scattering number. In the list of 1853 the Parliamentary Library at Quebec was accredited with a complete set of 41, Mr. Lenox with 33, Rev. Mr. Plante with 25, George Bancroft with 22, and the New York State Library with 22, contemporary reprints and duplicates not being counted. In 1851 the Parliamentary Library had acquired 30 volumes of the Relations, for the sum of $100, from the estate of the veteran John Neilson, publisher of the *Quebec Gazette* from 1796 to 1848; but in 1854 the library was destroyed by fire. Four years later the Canadian government republished the complete series of Relations in three large octavo volumes.

Until recently no complete set of the original editions was to be found in any one library. In 1893 the Lenox Library set contained 38 of the volumes, when the purchase in that year of the library of the Hon. George Bancroft added one to the series, and a few months later the two remaining volumes were obtained at private sale. The set thus completed contains in addition 14 contemporary reprints and variations, making a total of 55 volumes, excluding duplicates, and it is on this set that the present reproduction is mainly based.

U. S. Bureau of Education. Public, society, and school libraries in the United States; with library statistics and legislation of the various states: chapters from the report of the Commissioner of Education for 1895–96 [p. 340–599]. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1897. O.

In this valuable advance issue of chapters eight and nine of the forthcoming report of the Commissioner of Education, the libraries of the United States have been made the subject of exhaustive statistical investigation, supplementing and bringing up to date the similar work done by the Bureau in 1891. The results are interesting in their evidence of the increase and development of libraries in recent years, and the publication is most welcome as a handbook of American libraries. Unfortunately, its fullest usefulness is limited by the fact — too often true of the most valuable publications of the government — that the edition issued is so small that no copies are available for general distribution. It will, of course, be included in the forthcoming report of the commissioner, and it is to be hoped that later a second separate edition may be issued to supply the certain demand.

The statistics collected are for the year 1896, and show a total of 4026 public and school libraries in the United States, containing over 1000 volumes each. In all about 8000 responses were received in reply to the 15,000 blank forms sent out by the Bureau between April 1 and August 1, 1896. Of these, 3167 libraries reported less than 1000 but over 300

volumes, and nearly 1000 had less than 300 volumes each. In the first notable library report issued by the government, that of 1872, 1080 libraries containing over 1000 volumes each were listed; in 1875 there were 2039, this list being included in the great special report of 1876; in the report of 1884–85, 2988 similar libraries were recorded; and in 1891 it is stated that data as to 3503 libraries of over 1000 volumes was collected for the circular of information on "Statistics of public libraries" issued in 1893. A comparison of the libraries listed in 1891 and those given in the 1896 record is made as follows: "The number of volumes in the 4026 public and school libraries in 1896 was 33,051,872. This was an increase of 7,074,229 over the number of volumes reported by the 3503 libraries of the same kind in 1891. Here is an increase of over 27 per cent. in the number of volumes, while the increase in the number of libraries was scarcely 15 per cent." It must be said, however, that an actual comparison of the figures for 1891 with those in the present report does not bear out this statement. In the statistics for 1891 we find a total of 3804 (not 3503) libraries of over 1000 volumes, containing 26,896,537 volumes (not 25,977,643 as given in the present report), which would show an increase during the past five years of 6,155,335 and not of 7,074,872 volumes. The discrepancy is not a serious one, and it is probable that the error may lie in the 1891 figures, but it would have been desirable to have pointed this out in making the comparison, for in a report based wholly upon statistics, a patent discrepancy in some statistics awakens doubt of all.

The 1896 statistics regarding libraries are given in many varied tabulations, which are concisely summarized. It is shown that the greatest increase in the number of volumes has taken place in the north Atlantic division, "which shows an increase of more than 28 per cent. in the five years." In the north central division there has been an increase of 28 per cent., while in the western division the increase was nearly 40 per cent. The 4026 libraries report a total of 5,444,788 unbound pamphlets. The preliminary statistical tables show, besides the number of libraries and number of volumes, the additions and circulation, sources of support; general classification of libraries, as general, school, college, law, medical, etc.; classification according to size; amount of income; and two comparative summaries as to distribution of libraries and of volumes in 1891 and 1896, in which the discrepancies referred to again occur; besides summaries relating to libraries of less than 1000 volumes. An interesting feature is a chart of the United States, showing by means of graduated shadings the number of volumes to each 100 population in 1896. In the record by states, New York leads in number of libraries (572), and comes second in number of volumes, which are given as 5,251,347; Massachusetts has 494 libraries and 5,450,397 volumes; Pennsylvania is third, with 330 libraries and 2,964,761 volumes; Illinois fourth, with 214 libraries and 1,822,580 volumes; and Ohio fifth, with 202 libraries and 1,587,891 volumes; but the most gratifying showing is in the less imposing figures revealing the large increase of libraries in states where in former reports library statistics were but meagre. These tables and their summaries are followed by the full list of libraries containing over 1000 volumes, modelled upon the similar list in previous reports, and giving information on some 25 items. This list covers about 150 pages.

One curious error should be noted in the tabulation showing the "general classification of libraries" on page 344. This records but 26 state libraries for the 50 states and territories. Those listed as possessing no state or territorial library are Rhode Island, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Georgia, Florida, Oklahoma, Indian Territory, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, and California. Of these all, except Indian Territory, possess state libraries, some of them among the best in the country. Four states — Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois — are listed as possessing two state libraries each. These are surprising errors in a list which should be authoritative on the subject treated, and it is difficult to understand how they could have escaped notice and correction.

Chapter nine of the report (p. 524–599) is devoted to a valuable summary of library legislation in the United States, giving facts as to the establishment of district and school libraries, helpful suggestions as to what a library law should effect, a concise *résumé* of library legislation in the various states, with bibliographical references, and a collection of the library laws of the various states and territories, arranged alphabetically by states and given in chronological sequence under the state. The value of this comprehensive summary of library legislation can hardly be overestimated.

WEEKS, Stephen B. Libraries and literature in North Carolina in the 18th century. (From the annual report of the American Historical Association for 1895, pp. 171–267.) Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1896. 8°.

Dr. Weeks divides his paper into two parts: (1) libraries, (2) literature; but we shall consider the former only. In the introduction he states his purpose, as being to reconstruct, as clearly and fully as possible, one phase of the intellectual history of early North Carolina; "and he intends this paper to be complementary and supplementary to his earlier one on "The press of North Carolina in the 18th century." After briefly outlining the early history of the colony and "the first attempts at education" — which "the proprietors shamefully neglected," since "they cared neither for the spiritual nor the intellectual man" and "reconed the lives of the colonists only in quitrents and taxes" — he discusses the first libraries in the state. "Books" are given a prominent place in wills as early as 1676, but the first

parish or public library dates from 1700, and was due to the energy of Rev. Thomas Bray, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The library was established in the town of Bath, and in 1715 the legislature of the state passed an act for its preservation — "the only act passed during the proprietary period encouraging literature, and the only one relating to libraries passed in North Carolina before the Revolution." The 14 sections of the act relating to the library are given entire. At least two other parish libraries, somewhat similar to the one founded by Bray, were established, one in 1708 and the other about the same year. Edward Moseley gave the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel £10, in 1720, for the purchase of books, and three years later sent the society a catalog of the books he had purchased for a library "to be kept at Edenton." Nearly all the books, 76 in number, are in Latin, Greek, or Hebrew, and, as may be imagined, are theological or scholastic in character. In discussing the Moseley library Dr. Weeks has confused the library of the American Philosophical Society with the Library Company of Philadelphia. He speaks of the former, which was founded in 1743, when he means the latter, founded in 1731 — "the mother of all the North American subscription libraries."

There were a number of other libraries in the state in the 18th century, public and private, but little, indeed, is known of them, and this is constantly evident in Dr. Weeks's paper by the lack of definiteness in his statements, due to the loss or destruction of the records of their history. No one feels this loss more keenly than Dr. Weeks. The so-called public libraries of the state certainly exerted little influence on the people of the last century. S: H. R.

## Library Economy and History.

### LOCAL.

*Albany* (*N. Y.*) *Y. M. C. A. L.* (Rpt. — year ending March 1.) Added 540; total 4713. Issued, home use 7776 (fict. 4008); lib. use 9229. There are 144 periodicals in the reading-room.

*Atlanta, Ga. Y. M. L. A.* (Rpt. — year ending May 1, '97.) Added 433; total 17,266. Issued 21,468, an increase of over 4000 above the previous year's record. Membership 770.

"A new book-room, well lighted and equipped with modern appliances in the way of steel book-stacks, card catalogs, etc., is a much-needed addition. It is almost needless to call attention to our inadequate classification and printed catalog. The library is so hampered in this direction that the good work being done is small when compared with what might be accomplished if the library were well equipped."

*Atlantic City, N. J.* The matter of establishing a public library was brought up before the city council on May 10, when the city solicitor presented a full statement of the action necessary to secure its establishment, namely, the submission of the matter to popular vote, in accordance of the library law of the state.

*Attleboro* (*Mass.*) *F. P. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added (since May, '96) 225; total not given. Issued 24,901; registration 1075. "Owing to the changes in the library now in progress" it is impossible to report fully on the details of the work. Miss Allen, formerly assistant at the Pawtucket Library, was appointed librarian in May, 1896, and at once introduced new methods of administration. The open-shelf system has been adopted, as has the issue of special cards for teachers, and the classification of the library, according to the Dewey system, has been undertaken.

*Augusta, Ga. Y. M. L. A.* (Rpt. — year ending April 1, '97.) Added 63; total not given. Issued 3568 (fict. 2874); subscribers and members 225. Receipts $390.47; expenses $364.90.

*Belfast* (*Me.*) *F. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 647; total 7747. Issued 25,092 (fict., not including juv. fict., 58%). New registration 195; total registration 1963. Receipts $1854.43; expenses $1809.51.

The librarian suggests "that this 10th year of our library's history be made a notable one by planning for future needs and by devoting a generous sum for interior improvements."

*Berlin, Wis.* The Berlin Library Benefit Co. has been formed to raise money for the public library. An advisory committee has been appointed, containing representatives of the school board, city officials, school alumni, schools and federated clubs.

*Boston P. L.* At a meeting of the trustees on May 28 it was finally decided that the bronze statue of a bacchante, by Frederick MacMonnies, presented to the library by C. F. McKim last autumn, was unsuitable for the library, and that Mr. McKim's offer to withdraw it should be accepted.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *Institute of Arts and Sciences.* On June 2 the first section of the magnificent museum building of the Institute was formally opened to the public. It will be chiefly devoted to the exhibition of the collections in science and art.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *P. L. A.* On May 18 Governor Black signed the bill introduced into the legislature by Assemblyman Murray, authorizing the city of Brooklyn to set aside property for a site for a public library.

*Butte* (*Mont.*) *F. P. L.* The third annual report of the library, for the year ending April 1, was presented to the city council by Librarian Davies on April 21. The statistics are as follows: Added 2084; total 21,022. Issued, home use 74,296 (fict. 74.57%, magazines, etc. 2.75%); lib. use 44,348. New registration 611; total cards in use 3782. Expenses, maintenance $10,387.43, book fund $1529.95.

"Since the opening of the library, Feb. 7, 1894, 209,713 v. have been issued for home use." The reference use of the library and its connection with the schools are constantly

growing in importance, and the library itself seems to have become a chief factor in the life of the city. Mr. Davies's report is interesting and encouraging, and to his persistent enthusiasm may be traced many of the excellent results presented.

*Concord* (*Mass.*) *F. P. L.* (23d rpt.—year ending March 1, '97.) Added 914; total 28,714. Issued, home use 27,021 (fict. and juv. 64%); no record of lib. use is kept.

The librarian suggests a modification of the two-book system "to the extent of allowing borrowers to take two books of any kind they please, fiction or otherwise, limiting it only in regard to new books, only one of which shall be taken on a card."

*Danville* (*Ill.*)*P. L.* Added 688; total 8646. Issued, home use 30,706 (fict. 13,936, juv. 9366), of which 1417 were issued to teachers. New registration 374; total registration 6002.

*Dubuque* (*Ia.*) *Y. M. L. A.* (Rpt.—year ending April 1.) Added 632; total not given. Issued 31,416. Receipts $3891; expenses $3812.

The circulation shows an increase of 830 over 1895. During the year the library was classified and cataloged by Miss Maude Straight, a graduate of the Armour Institute library class.

*Germantown* (*Phila.*) *Friends' F. L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 533; total 19,298. Issued 11,542; vists 18,759. New registration 333; total users 1350.

Appended is a list of books added in 1896.

*Hallowell, Me. Hubbard F. L.* At the annual meeting of the trustees, held May 3, a gift of $10,000 was announced for an addition of a wing to the library building. The name of the giver will not be made public until the new wing is dedicated.

*Helena* (*Mont.*) *P. L.* The remodelled library building was formally opened on the evening of May 21. The exercises, which were largely attended, were held in the auditorium of the building, and an attractive feature was the singing by a chorus of 2000 school-children. The chief address of the evening was by ex-Gov. Joseph K. Toole, and Prof. J. E. Klock, superintendent of city schools, spoke upon "The proper co-operation between school and library." At the close of the exercise the building was thrown open for public inspection.

The changes made will give the library much better facilities for its work. A new and more convenient entrance has been provided, making the entrance-hall more central in its relation to the two floors occupied by the library. The second floor is principally given up to the large reading-room, connected with which is the reference department. On the lower floor is the circulating department, which is to be conducted on the free-access system. The bookshelves have been rearranged, so as to allow room for readers to pass among them, and it is intended to give the new system a thorough trial. If it proves unsatisfactory and results in loss of books, a return will be made to the former plan. The library hours are for the circulating department, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; for the reading-room, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. On Sundays and holidays the reading-room is open from 2 to 10 p.m.

According to the report of the trustees, submitted to the mayor on April 27, the library now contains 19,068 v., and had in 1896 a home circulation of over 72,000 v. and a reading-room attendance of about 80,000 persons.

*Hempstead* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* The new library building was dedicated on May 19.

*Hornellsville* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* (29th rpt.) Added 636; total not given. Issued 33,093 (fict. 27,287). Receipts $2028.94; expenses $1786.72.

*Jersey City* (*N. J.*) *F. P. L.* The library has recently placed on its shelves about 60 v. of books for the blind, which will be delivered to borrowers at their homes and called for when the time limit has expired.

*Kansas City* (*Mo.*) *P. L.* It is expected that the new library building will be ready for occupancy by July 1.

*Knoxville, Tenn. Lawson-McGhee L.* The library was reopened on May 5, after having been closed two weeks for alterations and improvements. At present there are 10,230 v. on the shelves, and the use of the library is increasing. Membership fees are 25 c. a month.

*Lancaster, Pa. Franklin and Marshall College.* The cornerstone of the new library building, to be given to the college by Gen. J. Watts De Peyster, was laid on the afternoon of May 12, in the presence of a large audience. It will accommodate 75,000 v., and will be a model in design and equipment.

*Los Angeles* (*Cal.*) *P. L.* The recently elected board of directors are proposing several changes in the library administration, chief among which is the allowing free access to all books except fiction. Considerable alterations in the library arrangements will be made. The counter will be moved from the delivery-room, and entrance and exit turnstiles will be installed, while the fiction will be shelved in the present reference-room.

*Lynn* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* (34th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1835; total 53,095. Issued, home use 118,895 (fict. 90,817), of which 2760 were issued on teachers' cards; ref. use 50,877. New registration 1042. Receipts $8458.24; expenses $8239.65.

*Malden* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* (19th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 2695; total 29,077. Issued, home use 113,381 (fict. 72.04 %); lib. use 8587. Total cards in use 11,010. Receipts $10,308.89; expenses $8799.75.

Much of the report is devoted to a description of the library as remodelled during the year. The changes, while adding to the convenience and attractiveness of the building, include also a fine new stack which gives a total book capacity of about 150,000 v.

*Manchester (N. H.) City L.* (43d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1109; total 40,558. Issued, home use 66,488; reading-room use 15,480. New registration 654; total registration 10,973. Receipts $8129.12; expenses $4878.37.

The gain in circulation in 1896 was 11,539 over that of the year before. The reclassification and cataloging of the library has been actively carried on, 6920 v. having been classified and 7293 cataloged during the year.

*Martinsburg (W. Va.) P. L.* The formal opening exercises of the library were held on the evening of May 25, and on the next day the regular work of the library was begun.

*Medford (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan 31, '97.) Added 1166; total 18,297. Issued 62,580. Receipts $5810 02; expenses $5809.48.

Many alterations have been made in the library during the year, new stacks have been installed and interior arrangements changed, with most gratifying results. When the remodelling is fully completed "the library will suffice the need of the city for many years, and enable it to fill its place in education and instruction which the best libraries are now doing." "Notwithstanding, however, all the necessary confusion attendant upon these changes, and the fact that the library was closed four weeks, the work of circulating the books, the reference and school work went on, and statistics show an increase in the circulation of almost 10,000 over last year."

In the annual report of the school committee, C. H. Morse, superintendent of schools, considers at some length the subject of the public library and the schools, and describes the means by which Miss Sargent has brought the library into close relations with teachers and scholars.

*Michigan libraries.* The Michigan State Library has issued Bulletin no. 2, devoted to "Libraries in Michigan" (April, 1897, 74 p. O.), in which the library facts and figures of the state are given, with all practicable fulness and accuracy. The record, which is given in descriptive form rather than in compact tabulation, is prefaced by a short historical account of the state library and an explanation of the system of travelling and "associate" libraries, by which it is brought into direct contact with all communities of the state. The library record is arranged alphabetically by towns, and includes all libraries of over 500 v. from which information could be obtained. The data given include date of organization, no. v., yearly accessions, income and expenses, name of librarian, general character of collection, and conditions of use. About 120 libraries are thus listed.

*Minnesota Historical Society L.* (9th biennial rpt. — two years ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1895, 1272; 1896, 2374 bound, 300 unbound v.; total 59,211. The several special collections of the society — newspapers, scrap-books, and portraits — have increased steadily in size and in value. The record of the library for the past two years shows a steady growth and development. "That the people of the state are awakening to the magnitude and importance of our collection is shown by the large increase in donations of books, manuscripts, pictures, and articles for the museum from the people of the state at large; and the society trusts that those who have anything of an interesting or historical character, bearing on the history of Minnesota particularly, or of the Northwest, which ought to be placed where it cannot be lost, and where it will be accessible to those looking after information, will donate it to the society."

*New York. Aguilar F. L. Soc.* (8th rpt., 1896.) Added 8153; total 36,264. Issued, home use 339,420. Receipts $22,238.68; expenses $19,814.26.

One new branch, at 176 E. 110th st., was opened during the year, giving a total "plant" of four libraries, each of which has to report a growth in excess of accommodations. The chief needs at all the libraries, in addition to more room, are printed catalogs and extra card catalogs, while a printed bulletin is also considered most desirable.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* (8th rpt. — Dec. 1, '95 – Dec. 31, '96.) Added 6227; total 55,281; lost 44, valued at about $27. Issued, home use 336,409 (fict. 62.1 %, juv. 16.8 %); users of ref. dept. 19,357. New registration 7507.

"For the first time in our history the record of juvenile books has been kept separate from fiction and the other classes, in order to make a fair comparison with other libraries. Of the juvenile circulation, 10 per cent. represents classes other than fiction. As compared with last year, there is a decrease in the percentage of fiction of 16.2 per cent., nearly all of which is represented in the juvenile department."

Mr. Hill gives much space to a review of what ought to be and might be done by the library for the pupils of the public schools. The present method of distributing books to the schools is unsatisfactory, and it is recommended "that some arrangement be made with the board of education by which the delivery wagon of that department shall make weekly visits to the various schools of the city for the purpose of distributing library books. It would be a very easy matter to time the calls so that the teachers would be prepared to receive books from the library and return others." It is also urged that means be found for improving the character of children's reading, and to this end "the librarian would recommend that the library expend $3000 in the purchase of 50 libraries of 50 volumes each for the sole use of teachers and pupils of the schools of the city. Each library would be kept by itself in a case containing, besides the books, an easily understood charging system. In a word, these would be travelling libraries, similar to those in use at the New York State Library, for the recommendation is that the library should be sent to a school and retained there for a given time, say four to six weeks, and then transferred to another school, and at the expiration of the time sent to a third school, and so on, thus

giving each school a chance at several hundred books during the year. These books would be used for school purposes only, and by supplying this number of books, the general public taking books from the library would be less inconvenienced than at the present time. The list of books forming these libraries should be made up by the superintendent of public instruction and the librarian, in consultation."

*Newburgh* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* (Rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '96. p. 21 of rpt. of Newburgh Public Schools.) Added 1571; total 22,403. Issued, home use 74,515, an increase of nearly 10 % over the preceding year.

"There has been a less proportion of fiction called for during the past few years than formerly, and an increasing demand for more useful reading. The percentage of fiction [in the library] is very small as compared with other public libraries, some reporting over 40 per cent., while ours contains but about 12 per cent."

*Newton* (*Mass.*) *F. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 2696; total 51,385. Issued, home use 154,476 (fict. 54.97 %), of which 95,839 v. were delivered through the 10 agencies, and 22,201 through the schools. New registration 1434; total registration, 7397. Receipts $13,512.17; expenses $13,512.12. West Newton branch, receipts $1470.90; expenses $1211.71.

"Great interest is taken in the musical collection. The number of volumes of music added during the year was 224, the whole number now in the library being 388. The circulation of the books of music during the year was 1620, or 1.04 per cent. of the entire circulation. This may, to some extent, account for the decrease in the per cent. of fiction."

*Oberlin* (*O.*) *College L.* (Rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, '96.) Added 2082; total 35,219. Issued, home use 14,450; no. readers 67,129, "an average of nearly 300 for each day of the school year"; no record of other than home use is kept. Receipts $3195.46; expenses $3020.25. The salaries of librarian and head cataloger are paid from university funds, and are not included in the figures given.

"Free access on the part of all students to every part of the library results in much misplacement of books by careless or ignorant persons. A misplaced book is practically for library purposes a lost book. Such misplacements are very frequent, and the force available to look after the shelves is very inadequate. With the constant increase of the library it is only a question of time when some restriction of the privilege of free access to every part of the library will be necessary. Meanwhile we must labor under some inconveniences in the way of disorderly arrangement."

*Oxford, Ga. Emory College L.* The cornerstone of the fine library building to be erected for Emory College was laid on April 27, with appropriate ceremonies.

*Passaic* (*N. J.*) *P. L.* An exhibition of original drawings loaned by the Century Co. was opened at the library on the evening of May 18 with a pleasant reception, which was largely attended. This is the first exhibition of the sort held at the library, and it has proved successful and of general interest. The drawings were shown for several weeks.

*Providence* (*R. I.*) *P. L.* (19th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 4909; total 80,148. Issued, home use 118,175 (fict. 43.25 %, juv. fict. 18.36 %); statistics of ref. use not recorded. New registration 4306; cards in use 13,716. Receipts $46,268.88; expenses $46,196.62.

"Since the *Monthly Bulletin* contains each month a record of all the additions to the library during the month, it is easy to cut out these printed entries, and, by mounting them on catalog cards, make them a part of the card catalog. This has been done for the past two years, so that now and for the future the new portions of the card catalog will be printed cards instead of manuscript cards. One more measure, more recently undertaken, will insure, in course of time, this printed quality to the older as well as the newer portions, namely, the printing of the class lists, by monthly instalments, in the *Monthly Bulletin*. It will, in fact, have still other advantages than this, for it will replace the manuscript class lists — now so constantly handled by readers as to be soiled and worn beyond repair — by printed lists, one great advantage of which is that, as they exist in multiform copies, a fresh copy can at any time be substituted."

*St. Louis* (*Mo.*) *P. F. L.* (Rpt. — year ending April 30, '96.) The chief facts in this report, which has just been issued in pamphlet form, were noted in the L. J. at the time of its presentation to the mayor (Aug., 1896, p. 383). Besides the usual statistical details and record of progress, Mr. Crunden includes an interesting tabulated view of popular reading, composed (p. 17–18) of tables showing the novels having largest circulation in 1888, 1890, 1895, 1894–96, and — in appendix 2 — of lists of novels, juveniles, and miscellaneous books issued over 100 times from June, 1894, to April, 1896. Appendix 1 is a classified list of library records, supplementing the account of routine methods and details given in the last report.

*St. Louis* (*Mo.*) *Mercantile L. A.* Added 4201; total 96,150. Issued, home use 93,570 (fict. 76.9 %). New membership 223; total membership 3550. Receipts $50,850.50; expenses $42,669.96.

"With the card catalog and classification finished, we can now consider plans that have been prepared for a cumulative printed catalog, which promises to solve a difficulty once thought insurmountable — that of a printed catalog in book form which shall not become obsolete."

*St. Paul* (*Minn.*) *P. L.* (15th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 3561; total 43,100. Issued, home use 202,053; lib. use 58,043. Total issue 260,096 (fict. 42.82 %, juv. 28.65 %). New registration 6012; total cards in use 11,000. Receipts $17,700.59; expenses $15,300.22.

*San Francisco, Cal. Mechanics' Institute L.* (42d rpt. — year ending Feb. 27, '97.) Added 3431; total 73,645. Issued, home use 166,971 (fict. 131,138, magazines 6258); no statistics of ref. use are given. New members 942; total membership 4493. Receipts $28,745.96; expenses $23,114.41.

"It would seem that at this time the principal need of the institute is a modern fire-proof building where our valuable collection of books may be safely housed and guarded against a loss that would be irreparable."

*Skaneateles (N. Y.) L. A.* (20th rpt.) Added 189; total 8535. Issued 4871 (fict. 83.%); members and subscribers 206. Receipts $1158.23; expenses (including $79.37 to 1895 deficiency) $1158.18.

Membership dues are $2 yearly.

*Southbridge (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending March 1, '97.) Added 470; total 16,359. Issued, home use 21,167 (fict. 39.39 %, juv. 22.44 %; French books 11.31 %, periodicals 3.10 %); no record of lib. use is kept. New registration 310; total cards in use 3460.

The per cent. of fiction dropped during the year from 42.54 % to 39.39 %. Considerable work has been done toward directing children's reading and obtaining co-operation between the schools and the library. It is planned to print a finding list of historical fiction, and to follow this by class lists in other departments.

*Spokane (Wash.) City L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 152; total 2765. Receipts $1146.43; expenses $1032.85.

No statistics of use are given, but the librarian says: "A record is kept of the number and kind of every book in circulation each day. I find that a very large percentage is in favor of works of fiction; but that, I believe, is true of all libraries."

*Stevens Point (Wis.) F. P. L.* A free public library has been recently established at Stevens Point. About $800 was raised by popular subscription, the common council added $300, and a well-selected library of 1200 v. was given by a local ladies' library association. The new library has been given to the city, which will support it in the future.

*Tacoma (Wash.) City L.* (Rpt.) Added 1344; total 8884. Issued, home use 32,239 (fict. 58.6%, juv. 15.5%), an increase of 3216 over the preceding year.

The report covers 10 months only — from March 1, 1896, to Jan. 1, 1897, owing to a change in the city charter by which the fiscal year was made to end Dec. 31 instead of Feb. 28, as formerly. Jonathan Smith is the present librarian.

*Taunton (Mass.) P. L.* (31st rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '96.) Added 1446; total 41,986. Issued, home use 76,223 (fict. 43,198), an increase of 3214 over the previous year, chiefly "in the department of reference-books for home reading and of fiction." New registration 337; total registration 13,614.

*Tennessee, lib. legislation in.* The library law recently enacted applies to towns or cities "having a population of 20,000 and upwards," and not to cities below that size, as was stated in the L. J. for April (p. 217). The provisions of the law are, briefly, (1) that city councils may levy a tax of not more than one cent annually on each $100 of taxable property, for the establishment and maintenance of a free library and reading-room. (2) That upon the passage of an ordinance to establish a free library the mayor shall appoint a board of nine directors, none of whom shall be members of the municipal government and not more than six of whom shall belong to the same political party. The directors shall hold office, three for one year, three for two years, and three for three years, their successors to be appointed in annual rotation by the mayor. (3) The directors are given full powers for the administration of the library, and are empowered to contract for the lease, purchase, or erection of buildings for library use. They are also given exclusive control of all library funds, which are to be kept separate from other city funds. It is also provided that the mayor and city council may aid any already established free public library association by an annual tax, provided that the association is incorporated under state law, that it contains books valued at not less than $5000, and that it can be shown that such aid is needed for the continued operation of the association. A library association thus aided may continue to appoint its own directors and control its own management, but the mayor is empowered to appoint three directors, and may revoke any rules or by-laws, if necessary. The property of libraries established under the law is exempted from taxation.

*Trenton, N. J.* A movement to secure a free public library for Trenton was auspiciously started on May 24 with a meeting in the city council chamber, when a public library committee was organized by the mayor, who presided. There was a large attendance of citizens, and the list of speakers included, besides many well-known residents, J. B. Thompson, president of the New Jersey Library Association, Dr. J. M. Green, of the state schools, Rev. A. W. Wishart, Prof. C. E. Green, and others. Several of the speakers suggested that the library conducted by the local W. C. T. U., and known as the Union Library, be taken over by the city and made the nucleus of a free public library, to be established under the provisions of the state law. It was decided that besides the general library committee, three additional committees should be appointed, one on permanent organization, one on inquiry into the state law and local conditions, and one on the method of securing and operating free libraries elsewhere.

*Troy, N. Y. Hart Memorial L.* The beautiful library building given by Mrs. W. Howard Hart to the Troy Y. M. A., as a memorial of her husband, was dedicated on the evening of May 12. The building, which was designed by

Barney & Chapman, of New York, is a fine example of the Italian renaissance style, and its interior finishing is rich and harmonious. It is two-storied, and contains on the main floor a delivery-room opening directly from the broad main hall, on either side of which is a newspaper-room and a smaller magazine-room, the latter connecting with a conversation-room and a writing-room. There are also cloak and toilet rooms on this floor. The five-storied stack-room occupies almost the entire east end of the building, and is equipped with Stikeman shelving; the cataloging-room occupies the southeast corner of the first floor.

On the second floor is the large public reading-room, a librarian's room and a study-room, and three art galleries, with several smaller rooms to be devoted to storage and similar purposes. Marble, Georgia pine, and quartered oak are the chief materials used in the interior finishing, and no pains have been spared to render the building a model of fitness and of artistic beauty.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* SCHUYLER, Montgomery. The new Library of Congress; with illustrations by Ernest C. Peixotto. (*In Scribner's Magazine*, June, p. 709–727.)

An excellent study of the new building, architecturally and artistically. Mr. Peixotto's illustrations in their delicacy, effectiveness, and reality are noteworthy among the many pictured presentments of the Congressional Library.

*Waterville (Me.) F. L. A.* The library was opened on August 24, 1896, with 422 v. The report for the eight months ending May 1, 1897, shows a total of 1347 v., of which 133 were gifts. 40 % of the contents of the library is fiction, and 12 % is juvenile. 14,307 v. have been issued. The percentage of fiction read is now 85 %, as against 95 % in the first few months of the library's existence. Receipts $1910.76; expenses $1649.29.

*Wilkesbarre, Pa. Osterhout F. L.* (8th rpt., 1896. *In Library Newsletter*, May.) Added 1049; total 24,112. Issued, home use 79.664 (fict. 65.9 %, periodicals 6.1 %). New registration 1618; total registration 8455.

The circulation shows an increase of over 8000 above that of 1895. During the year the first supplement to the catalog was issued, but its sale among users of the library has not been large. "Of the catalog and supplements sold last year, only 26 were purchased by the users of the library, while the other 53 were sold to libraries all over the country and abroad." There was a decrease of about 2000 in the number of books issued to the schools, which is partly attributed to an increase in the amount of supplementary reading supplied by the school board.

*Wisconsin State Hist. Soc. L.* (Rpt., year ending Dec., '96. *In* Proceedings of 44th annual meeting). The chief statistics of the secretary's report have already been given in the L. J. (Jan., p. 51). The work of making a complete card catalog of the library has made good progress, and will, it is thought, be practically completed in about 10 months. With the removal to the new building it will be possible to adopt a system of classification, which limited help and accommodation have previously rendered impracticable. "Such method of classification will be adopted, based chiefly on the Cutter system, as seems best suited to our peculiar needs." Work on the catalog of newspapers has been delayed during the year by the transfer of the compiler to other work; it is hoped, however, that it may be published before the next annual meeting. A review of library progress in the state during 1896 is embodied in the report, and a detailed account of the progress made upon the new building is given.

The "specifications for completion of the library and museum building for the State Historical Society" have been issued by Ferry & Class, the architects, in pamphlet form, covering 170 printed pages.

*Yale Univ. L., New Haven, Ct.* (Rpt., 1896.) "The increase of the resources of the library, both in money and books, has far exceeded that of any previous year. From the Sloane bequest, appropriated by the corporation to the use of the library, we have already received $161,565, and are still to receive about $25,000 more. Although not assigned exclusively to the book fund, it is expected that most of the income will be available for this use. The library fund proper has received during the year gifts of $1600 from the New York Alumni Association, $1500 from the Junior Promenade Committee of the class of 1897, and $200 from 'an old friend.' It now amounts to $114,597. The purchases and gifts together make the unusually large total of 22,100 volumes and 27,000 pamphlets. The purchases alone, including 620 volumes placed in the Linonian and Brothers library, were 5300 volumes." The most notable accessions of the year were the Riant collection of books relating to Scandinavia, 5000 v., 50 mss., 16,000 dissertations, given by Mrs. Henry Farman; the library of Ernst Curtius, the historian and archæologist, 3500 v. and as many pamphlets, given by Joshua M. Sears, of Boston; and important additions to a collection of Russian books, given by a friend whose name is not made public.

*FOREIGN.*

*Austria.* The Association of Austrian Librarians, according to the *Mémorial de la Librairie Française*, has decided to publish a general annual catalog of books, maps, music, etc., besides periodical publications, issued in Austria. It has been also decided to establish an Austrian museum of library economy.

*Battersea (Eng.) P. Ls.* (10th rpt., 10 months ending March 25, '97.) Added 3099; total 38,959, of which 11,140 are in the ref. dept. Issued 272,159, of which 19,697 were used in the ref. dept. Registered borrowers 9347.

*Birmingham* (*Eng.*) *F. Ls.* (35th rpt., 1896.) Added, ref. l. 4100; total 133,590; issued 360,680 (Sunday use 21,016). Total. lending ls. 88,511; issued 834,957 (fict. 592,299, juv. 104,259). New registration 16,904, total cards in use 29.302.

There are now nine branch libraries in addition to the central lending and reference libraries; of these one, that at Balsall Heath, was opened during the year.

*Kimberley* (*South Africa*) *P. L.* At the annual meeting of subscribers to the library, held in February, the subject of making the library free to the public was discussed and approved on condition that a sum for maintenance be appropriated by the borough council, which should levy a minimum tax for the purpose. It had been hoped that Kimberley might be the first town in South Africa to develop a really free library, but the town of Durban had forestalled the Kimberley citizens by, a few months previously, providing for the municipal support of the Durban Library. The Kimberley Library was opened 10 years ago with 8000 v.; it now contains about 20,000 v.

*Rome.* The Tasso Library and Museum, established in S. Onofrio, Rome, was dedicated on April 25, the anniversary of Tasso's death. It is an outgrowth of the recent celebration of the third centenary of the death of Tasso, and its nucleus is the valuable collection gathered by Tasso's devoted biographer, Prof. Angelo Solerti, to which the government has added duplicates from its public libraries. The library is open to students on Tuesdays and Fridays.

*Toronto, Ontario, Can. Education Dept. L.* (p. 358–361 of rpt. of minister of education of Ontario for 1896.) Added by purchase 495; total not given. Issued 8680, an increase of 1346 over 1895.

"During the years 1895 and 1896 the catalog of books on education and kindred subjects has been carefully revised and greatly enlarged in a topical and sectional form. It is now in the printer's hands.

"Although the library is beginning to assume its former proportions in some departments of literature, yet it has never recovered from the unusual depletion which it suffered in 1881, when large portions of books in the department of Canadian history were distributed to various institutions under the control of the Ontario government."

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Beaver Dam, Wis. Williams F. L.* The will of the late Hon. J. J. Williams, of Beaver Dam, contained a bequest of $5000 for endowment to the Williams Free Library, to which he had given a building costing $25,000.

*Boston and Brookline P. Ls.* By the will of the Rev. Caleb Davis Bradlee, who died at Brookline, Mass., on May 1, the Boston Public Library receives a bequest of $1000. The sum of $500 is also left to the Brookline Public Library.

*Chelsea, Mass. Fitz P. L.* By the will of the late Dr. W: G. Wheeler, of Chelsea, that city is given the sum of $5000, the income of which is to be used for the Fitz Public Library.

*Chester, Pa.* By the will of the late Lewis Crozier, of Upland, which was admitted to probate May 7, a bequest of $250,000 is made to Chester for a free library.

*Greenwich* (*Ct.*) *P. L.* The library recently received a gift of $500 from Andrew Carnegie, whose summer home is in Greenwich.

*Kansas City* (*Mo.*) *P. L.* The supreme court on May 4 decided that the gift of $25,000 made in March, 1894, by the late George Sheidley to the school board for public library purposes, must be paid by Mr. Sheidley's executors. Mr. Sheidley was a millionaire citizen, who died late in 1894. About a year before his death a movement was started for a new public library building in Kansas City, and Mr. Sheidley gave his notes for $25,000 to aid in the purpose. After his death his executors refused to pay the gift on the ground that he was insane when it was made and that the notes were given without a consideration in return. The school board sued to recover three of the $5000 notes, which were due, and won the suit. The executors appealed, and the case has now been setiled by the supreme court. The gift and the resultant complications were noted at the time in the L. J. (19 : 102, 352).

*Massillon, O.* The city of Massillon has received, by the will of the late George Harsh, $10,000 for a public library.

*Pepperell, Mass.* By the will of the late C: F. Lawrence, of New York City, the town of Pepperell receives $100,000 for the construction of a library and art gallery. Of this sum $50,000 is to be spent on site and building, and $25,000 each is to be devoted to the fitting up of the library and gallery. The building is to be known as the Lawrence Library, and is to receive Mr. Lawrence's personal collection of books and pictures.

## Practical Notes.

BOOK-COVER. Described in *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, Feb. 2, 1897. 78 : 689. il.

"The combination with a book, of an endless cover comprising a back adapted to lap over the back of the book, then continuing to form an outer cover, continuing to form a central strip of a width corresponding to the thickness of the book, then extending to form the second cover of the book, then extending to form a double outer back adapted to lap over so that the cover will embody a double back and provide a double thickness at the hinge-points of the covers, . . . the said cover having

its ends united and overlapped to form an open-ended continuous cover, said cover being secured at or near its overlapped portions to the back of said book, substantially as and for the purpose set forth."

CARD-CATALOG-ASSORTING DEVICE. — The U. S. Patent Office has issued to W. L. Boyden, of Washington, letters patent no. 582,035, dated May 4, 1897, for a card-catalog-assorting device, of which Adelaide R. Hasse is assignee of one-half. The device, which is intended to facilitate the alphabeting of a large number of catalog cards, consists of a sorting-board divided, by horizontal or perpendicular division lines, into 42 oblong sections a little larger than an ordinary catalog card, six sections being across the board and seven down it. The first 24 sections, counting from left to right, are marked with the letters of the alphabet in capitals. The line of six sections below is marked with the lower-case vowels a e i o u, the sixth section being marked "Mistakes." The two lines of six sections each below the vowel line are given up to lower-case consonants, as follows: bc, d, fg, h, jkl, mn, pqr, st, vw, xyz, and to two sections, one for "Miscellaneous" and one for "Stack." The user of the board, instead of alphabeting a large number of catalog cards in the hand, as is generally done, is enabled by this alphabetic diagram to lay all cards beginning with A on the A section, and so on, and then to sub-alphabet, by the remaining letters of the entry, by means of the lower-case vowel and consonant sections. Cards as to which any question may arise are placed in the "Mistakes" section, or in the "Miscellaneous" division, as required, while the "Stack" section is devoted to stacking the cards as the alphabeting of each letter is finished. The device may be modified in several ways, especially by the addition, when necessary, of a supplemental board of lower-case sections to be used in extensive sub-alphabeting. "The material out of which the device may be made is preferably heavy cardboard or a thin thickness of wood, but obviously any other material may be substituted." Mr. Boyden, the patentee, is librarian of Scottish Rite Library, Washington.

STORAGE BATTERIES IN LIBRARY BUILDINGS. — An electric storage battery is to be installed in the new library building of Princeton University, and it is not improbable that these will come into general use. The patents for most of the types of storage battery which have come into actual and practical use have now come under the control of one company, the Electric Storage Battery Co. of Philadelphia, the few rival batteries outside those of this company being rather of an experimental nature. In installing a storage battery in a library, careful precautions should be taken to insure thorough ventilation of the battery-room and the greatest care should be used to prevent fumes from the battery getting at books, bindings, or ironwork. A battery in the process of charging gives off fumes or spray containing more or less sulphuric acid, which under certain circumstances can do considerable damage. These fumes are heavier than air, so that their tendency is downward rather than upward, but they are liable to follow the ordinary currents of air or to diffuse themselves throughout a building. It is quite possible to provide adequately for ventilation, so that while care is demanded this does not make a prohibitive objection to a storage battery. Approximately 25% of the energy put into a storage battery is wasted in the process of transformation, but a storage battery is nevertheless useful and to some extent economical where it is used at the "peak" of the lighting; that is, during the few hours when everybody is using lights, or during the day, when a local electric light plant may not be running. It is also useful in giving steadiness to lights where elevators or other power is run by the electric current. Arrangements may sometimes be made with local plants to obtain current at a lower price when hours of maximum lighting are excluded. The storage battery may thus become a useful adjunct in library administration, provided proper care is taken in its installation and management.

## Librarians.

BROWN, Walter, formerly connected with the Peter Paul Book Co. of Buffalo, has been appointed reference librarian of the Buffalo Library, his appointment taking effect June 1. Mr. Brown spent several weeks in May in making an extended trip of library inspection in the west and east, visiting the libraries of Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Cleveland, Boston, Albany, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington.

ELMENDORF, Henry L., was on June 10 appointed superintendent of the Buffalo Public Library, succeeding J. N. Larned, resigned. Mr. Elmendorf has been connected with the Library Bureau since his resignation from the St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library in the fall of 1896, and was for some months in charge of its London office. He returned to this country in March of the present year, and since then has been actively engaged in arranging for the English trip of the A. L. A. delegates to the London conference. Mr. Elmendorf is prominent in the official work of the A. L. A., having served as secretary in 1895–96. At the Cleveland conference he was elected first vice-president.

GROVER, Rev. James L., for 24 years librarian of the Columbus (O.) City Library, died at his home in Columbus on May 5, aged 91 years. Mr. Grover was appointed city librarian in 1873, and his celebration of his 91st birthday in December last was noted at the time in the L. J. (Jan., p. 53). He was for years a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. For the last year or so he has acted as librarian *emeri-*

*tus* rather than as active executive, but his interest in and devotion to the library were constant and unflagging.

SHARP, Miss Katharine L., will enter upon her new duties as librarian and director of the library school of the University of Illinois in September, remaining at Armour Institute until the end of the present term.

STILLMAN, Miss Marie Louise, was on May 12 elected superintendent of the circulating department of the Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library, succeeding Miss L. E. Stearns.

VAN INGEN, Miss Elizabeth G., for many years connected with the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library, died on May 24. Her death was very sudden. She was at the library attending to her duties until noon, and was fatally stricken with apoplexy while out at lunch. Miss Van Ingen's connection with the Brooklyn Library began April 18, 1869, before the erection of the present building. She was long in charge of the reading-room, and about three years ago was made assistant at the delivery department. She had a large circle of friends, and will be missed by many users of the library, who had come to know her well during her 28 years' service.

WADLEIGH, Mrs. Harriet C., was appointed librarian of the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library by the new board of directors on May 21, succeeding Mrs. Clara B. Fowler. Mrs. Wadleigh was at one time connected with the Springfield (Mass.) City Library, and since her residence in Los Angeles has been a teacher and a journalist. The change in the librarianship is due to the coming into office of a new board of directors. It will be remembered that the appointment of Mrs. Fowler, who succeeded Miss Kelso in 1895, was the result of political transformations in the board, and the present change is due to the same cause. There will probably be a number of other changes in the *personnel* of the library force.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BLACKSTONE MEMORIAL L., *Branford, Ct.* Catalogue of the James Blackstone Memorial Library, May, 1897. New Haven, Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Press, 1897. 248 p. l. O.

In this catalog Mr. Tyler has followed the essential plan adopted by him in his previous catalog and has produced an excellent dictionary catalog, compact, yet full in desirable particulars, and agreeable to use. It was published the last of May, and it contains all books in the library up to April 30, in all about 6500 v. Author entries are brief, but data as to editor, translator, edition, series, etc., are given, as are place and date of publication, and size. When the date of a title-page differs from that of copyright or preface, the fact is indicated. Contents of important series are given, not in a nonpareil note as is usually done, but in a title-a-line list. No attempt has been made to give contents of composite books or of volumes of short stories, though at least one exception to this rule may be noted in the entry of Markham's "Colonial days." Sequels are generally indicated, and there are a few annotations giving facts as to editions or special topics treated. In his preface Mr. Tyler acknowledges the faithful work done upon the catalog by Miss Sarah C. Nelson, who has been his chief assistant in its preparation.

BOLTON, H: Carrington. A catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals, 1665–1895. 2d edition. Part 1. Washington, Smithsonian Institution, 1897. 1–599 p. 8°, (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections, 1076.)

Part 2 of this most valuable work is to be issued later, and will contain 3600 added titles, besides title-page and preface. 4954 periodicals are cataloged in this part. There does not seem to be uniformity in making cross-references from editors, as many are omitted.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains a reference list on "The Eastern question since the Turko-Russian War of 1877 and 1878" (2½ p.).

BOSTON P. L. A brief description of the Chamberlain collection of autographs now deposited in the Public Library of the city of Boston. Boston, 1897. 66 p. D.

An interesting historical account of this valuable collection, with a sketch of Mr. Chamberlain, followed by descriptive notes of the chief documents and tablets.

— A list of periodicals, newspapers, transactions, and other serial publications currently received in the principal libraries of Boston and vicinity. Boston, 1897. 144 p. l. O.

A valuable union list, including in all 36 libraries, and recording, at a rough estimate, over 7000 publications. The main list (p. 1–113) is an alphabetic title list, except for transactions of societies and similar issues, which are listed under the name of the society. In cases of foreign societies (except English) references are made under places to the societies located there. The times of issue of publications (monthly, quarterly, yearly, etc.) are denoted by abbreviations, and the entry indicates also the libraries in which the publications can be found. The main list is followed by a valuable subject index, in which the publications dealing with a specific subject are grouped under that subject. This index excludes literary and scientific publications of a general character. The list is a comprehensive and careful piece of painstaking work that should prove most useful as a guide and aid in other libraries.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* devotes reference list no. 23, in its May issue, to Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for May continues the "list of periodicals relating to astronomy in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library" from M–Z; it also contains a list of the documents, etc., in the Emmet collection, illustrating the Continental Congress of 1774, a list of "Documents relative to the higher education of women," chiefly in connection with the University of Oxford, and a reprint of a letter of Rev. Charles Nisbet, written in 1790, giving his unflattering views of American life.

The OMAHA (*Neb.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May has reading lists on Memorial day, and on Greece, Turkey, and the Balkans.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains reference list no. 14 on "State constitutions and their revision," and special catalog no. 14, being a "co-operative index of the periodicals, serials, annuals, etc., currently received at the libraries and reading-rooms of Providence."

SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Class list no. 3: Science, useful and fine arts. February, 1897. 101 p. O.

Includes all books in the classes listed in the library on Feb. 14, 1897 (about 5500 v.).

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May has special reading lists on Aerial navigation, John and Sebastian Cabot, Queen Victoria, and George Meredith.

U. S. *Dept. of Agriculture.* Library bulletin, May, 1897: accessions to the department library, January–March, 1897. 16 p. l. O.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for May concludes the special reading list on Greece begun in the April number, and has also a short list on Birds.

*FULL NAMES.*

*Supplied by Harvard College Library.*

Chapman, Frank Michler (Bird-life);
Hale, W: B: (Handbook on the law of torts);
Hogg, C: Edgar (Hogg's pleading and forms);
MacCorkle, W: Alexander (The Nicaraguan canal);
Peirce, Clarence Eugene (Descendants of Rufus and Pamela (Throop) Thayer);
Rice, Frank Sumner (A treatise on the modern law of real property as expounded by our courts, etc.);
Sawyer, Frank Ezra (The navigation of the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico);
Schwarz, Eugene Amandus, *joint author* (The common crow of the United States);
Warvelle, G: W: (Principles of the law of real property);
Westervelt, Adrian Bogart *and* Walter Tallman (Metallic book-shelving for libraries).

## Bibliography.

ÆSOP. Keidel, G: C. Romance and other studies, no. 2: a manual of Æsopic fable literature: a first book of reference for the period ending A.D. 1500. First fascicule (with three fac-similes). Balt., The Friedenwald Co., 1896. 24+76 p. O. pap.

The *Athenæum* says of Dr. Keidel's monograph: "His method is one of extraordinary bibliographical minuteness. After citing the modern works on the history of the subject, he gives a list of 174 incunabula, beginning with Ulrich Boner's 'Edelstein' (Bamberg, 1461) and ending with Caxton's 'Esope.' Then follows a list of the known extant copies of each, with a note stating when they have not been seen by the author; next, lists of authors, of places where printed, of printers, of the number of leaves in the folio and quarto editions, of languages, of the places where now preserved, of catalogs, of sale prices, and of former owners."

ALABAMA LAW. Cole, Theodore Lee. Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states: Alabama. Washington, D. C., Statute Law-Book Co., 1897. 76 p. O.

AMERICAN AUTHORS. Foley, P. K. American authors, 1795–1895: a bibliography of first and notable editions, chronologically arranged with notes; with an introduction by Walter Leon Sawyer. Bost., printed for subscribers, 1897. 16+352 p. O. subs., net, $5; $10.

"The compiler's evident intention has been to include the titles of books by writers who, within the last 100 years, have published enough works of the class usually called belles-lettres to entitle them to be fairly termed littérateurs, and the work includes the youngest of our contemporary writers, even to those born as recently as 1865. In a number of cases the aid of the author himself is very manifest, but except where this has been given the list is far from satisfactory; there are many omissions of names and titles which should be included, misprints abound, and little judgment or unity is shown throughout. The works of some few writers are set forth at great length, and the titles of their writings are greatly multiplied by giving all books to which they contributed a poem or a preface. In a few cases all the non-literary writings are included, even to medical and mathematical works, while in others they are excluded. . . . The exact use of the list is not altogether easy to define, since the titles are far too brief to make it of value to the collector, and the material is already in print in much better form."—*Nation*, Ap. 22.

Pages 357–358 include lists of "Initials and pseudonyms" and "Anonyms." The edition is limited to 500 copies at $5, and 75 copies at $10, and subscriptions are received by P. K. Foley, 67 Chauncy st., Boston.

ANARCHISM. Nettlau, M. Bibliographie de l'anarchie; preface d' Élysée Reclus. Brussels, Bibl. des Temps Nouveaux, 1897. 294 p. 8°. 5 fr.

ARKANSAS statute law. Cole, Theodore Lee. Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states: Arkansas [from publications of the Southern History Association, April, 1897]. Washington, Statute Law-Book Co., 1897. 14 p. O.

Continues the pagination from the similar check list of Alabama law.

BURNS. The fourth and concluding volume of "The life and works of Robert Burns," edited by Robert Chambers and revised by William Wallace (N. Y., Longmans, '97, $2.50), contains a selected bibliography of Burns, p. 505–517.

CATHARINE II. *of Russia*. Bilbassoff, *Prof.* B. von. Katharine II., Kaisserin von Russland, im urtheile der weltlitteratur, autorisirte uebersetzung aus dem Russischen; mit einem vorworte von Prof. Dr. Theodor Shiemann. Berlin, Stur'sche Buchhandlung, 1897. 2 v. l. O. 20 m.

Contains a critical examination of the 1282 v. in the Imperial Public Library of St. Petersburg, which treat of Catharine II. and her times; many of these volumes, manuscripts, and private documents preserved in the Russian archives have been hitherto unknown and inaccessible, and Prof. Bilbassoff's investigations should cast much light upon the history of Europe in the time of Catharine. The work includes indexes of authors, subjects, and persons.

CHOLELITHIASIS. Volume 158 of the New Sydenham Society Publications (1896) is "A treatise on cholelithiasis," by B. Naumyn, and contains a nine-page bibliography.

CHURCH HISTORY. Hurst, J: Fletcher. History of the Christian church. v. 1. N. Y., Eaton & Mains, '97. 26+950 p. O. $5.

Prefaced by a classed bibliography of "Literature of church history" (p. 1–14).

FRENCH LITERATURE. Pellissier, G: The literary movement in France during the 19th century; authorized Eng. version by Anna Garrison Brinton, with general introduction. N. Y., Putnam, 1897. 56+504 p. O. $3.50.

Appended is an eight-page bibliography of "authors whose works have been utilized as examples of the literary movement." The arrangement is chronological.

GENEALOGY. Glenn, T: Allen, *comp.* A list of some American genealogies which have been printed in book form; arranged in alphabetical order. Philadelphia, H.T. Coates & Co., 1897. 3 + 71 p. 28.4 x 22 cm., net, $2.

The title-page of this book describes it in a general way. Printed with two columns to the page, it contains a vast amount of material that cannot fail to be useful in every library that is consulted by members or would-be members of the many patriotic societies, colonial dames, and the like. Cross-references from allied families are given, though in the appendices, of which there are two, many cross-references seem to have been omitted intentionally. In many cases brief descriptive notes are given. "The special feature claimed for the present list is that, wherever possible, the unabridged title-page of each book is given, thus indicating, in nearly every instance, the locality where the family resided, and the city or town in which the genealogy was printed." Size and number of pages are also given.

JAPAN. Knapp, Arthur May. Feudal and modern Japan. Bost., Joseph Knight Co., 1897. 2 v. 24°, $1.50.

Contains (v. 2, p. 187–226) a classified and annotated bibliography.

JEWISH LIFE. Abrahams, Israel. Jewish life in the Middle Ages. N. Y., Macmillan, 1896. 8°, $1.75.

Contains a list of Hebrew authorities on the subject (6 p.).

KOOPMAN, Harry Lyman. The mastery of books: hints on reading and the use of libraries. New York, American Book Co., [1896.] 214 p. 12°. 90 c.

This little volume contains chapters on "What to read," "Reference books and catalogs," "Periodicals," "The place of the library in education," etc. Some 50 pages are given up to a classified list of books, which is a useful guide to the leading works in the various departments of knowledge. The last chapter is on "Books on the subject of reading," and this is probably the most helpful one to librarians. Brief descriptive notes of each work are given. Through an oversight the LIBRARY JOURNAL (p. 143) is called a weekly.

LITHOGRAPHY. Curtis, Atherton. Some masters of lithography; with 22 photogravure plates after representative lithographs, and appendices giving technical explanations, and bibliography. N. Y., Appleton, 1897. 4°, net, $12.

MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORIES. Holden, E. S. Mountain observatories in America and Europe. Washington, Smithsonian Institution, 1896. 6+77 p. 8°, (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections, 1035.)

Contains a five-page bibliography.

NOMINATIONS. Dallinger, F: W. Nominations for elective office in the United States. N. Y., Longmans, 1897. 14+290 p. O. (Harvard hist. studies, no. 4.) net, $1.50.

The appendix contains a select bibliography.

PSYCHOLOGY. Warren, Howard C., *and* Farrand, Livingston, *comps*. The psychological index, no. 3: a bibliography of the literature of psychology and cognate subjects for 1896. 4+145 p. 8°.

This is the third index issued as a supplement to the *Psychological Review*. There are 2234 titles, arranged according to classes. There is also an index of authors.

TOLSTOI, *Count*. Zelinskii, V. Rousskaia krititcheskaia literatoura o proizvedeniiakh L. N. Tolstogo; khronologitcheskii sbornik kritiko-bibliografitcheskikh stateĭ. Moscow, A. Koltchougin, 1896. 251 p. 8°.

A collection of bibliographical articles regarding Tolstoi's works.

*INDEXES.*

The CONGRESS OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES has issued through its secretary, Ralph Nevill, a circular briefly describing the "Index of archæological papers published from 1682–1890," which that association has now in press. This important work will furnish a key to the records of British archæology, scattered for years through the transactions of many societies. The first step toward its preparation was taken in 1891, three years after the formation of the Congress of Archæological Societies, when a yearly index to such articles was compiled and issued. This has appeared each year from 1891 to 1895, and has been of great service, but to make it complete an index from the beginning of the Royal Society in 1682 to 1890 was needed. Such an index was compiled up to the year 1885 by Mr. G. L. Gomme, the well-known writer on English archæological subjects, who has offered the use of his ms. to the congress. It is now proposed to complete the work for the period 1886 to 1890 and issue the entire index, 1682 to 1890, to subscribers. The index consists of a transcript of the titles of papers contributed to every archæological society and other societies publishing archæological material in the United Kingdom; these are arranged alphabetically by authors, and the author list is supplemented by an exhaustive subject index. The value of the proposed work is apparent at first sight, and it is to be hoped that sufficient subscriptions will be received to make its prompt publication possible. The subscription price is 15 s. net, to be raised after publication to one guinea, net; subscribers should send their names promptly to Ralph Nevill, F.S.A., Hon. Secretary, Rolls Chambers, 89 Chancery Lane, London, W. C.

UNINDEXED BOOKS. The number of important books recently published without needed indexes is rather discouraging to those who look for a rapid development of the "index conscience" among publishers. The most flagrant case is that of Nansen's great work, which, admirably supplied as it is with maps and illustrations, lacks the essential feature of a full and careful index. This omission, in the case of so expensive and valuable a work, is especially inexcusable. It is a curious fact that the advance announcements of "Farthest north" stated that a thorough index was to be included, but the promise was unfulfilled — whether owing to the necessity of rushing its publication through at the last moment or for other reasons it is difficult to guess. John A. Logan's "In joyful Russia" (Appleton), is another book the value of which is much impaired by the lack of an index. In the same category belong Dowden's "French Revolution and English literature," Mrs. Sherwood's "Epistle to posterity," Miss Tooley's "Personal life of Queen Victoria," and H. I. Sheldon's "Notes on the Nicaragua Canal." The list, it will be seen, comprises some of the foremost publishers of the country — Harper, Appleton, Scribner, Dodd, Mead & Co., and McClurg, and this fact is regrettable evidence that the importance of good indexes is yet far from being generally recognized.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

"Story of the heavenly camp-fires; by one with a new name," N. Y., Harper, 1896, is by Edward Payson Tenney.— *Authority of author*, N. E. B.

"An iron crown: a tale of the great republic," Chicago, c. 1885, published anonymously, is by Thomas Stewart Denison, who is also the publisher. KATE M. HENNEBERRY.

"The descendant." In *Harper's Bazar* of June 5, the author of "The descendant" (Harper, 1897), is announced to be Miss Ellen Glasgow, of Richmond, Va.

## Humors and Blunders.

A LIBRARY patron wished to know, "who were the most noted American ladies." In the conversation that ensued she remarked that she believed "the mother of Ben Hur was quite a noted lady."

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"The civil war of the fourth century" was asked for by a person who wanted to see the four volumes of the "Battles and leaders of the Civil War" (Century Co.).

"THE new *nonsense* book" was asked for by an inquirer who wished the latest work of Nansen.

A PRIVATELY printed volume about the Athenæum Club tells of a clerical dignitary who, being anxious to consult one of the fathers on a theological point, asked a servant of the club "if 'Justin Martyr' was in the library." "I don't think he's a member, my lord," was the reply, "but I'll go and ask the porter."

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***Archives** du diocèse de Chartres. Histoire et Cartulaire de St-Denis de Nogent-le-Rotrou (1031–1789). Fort vol. in-8, av. planches. 1895–97. 12 fr. 50

***Armelhaut** et **Bocher.** Catalogue de l'Œuvre de Gavarni, lithographies originales et essais d'eau-forte et de procédés nouveaux In-8, sur papier de Hollande, 1873. (60 fr.) 25 fr.

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***Blanc** (J.). Bibliographie italico-française, 2 vol. in-8. 1886. 30 fr.

***Bory de Saint Vincent.** *Botanique* du Voyage autour du monde sur la corvette *La Coquille* pendant les années 1822–25. Partie *Cryptogamie.* In-4, avec 36 planches coloriées et noires. 1828. 35 fr.

***Bulletin bibliographique international** et Courrier littéraire. Gr. in-8, 12 numéros par an. 4 fr. 50

**Burton's** Arabian Nights entertainements. Reprint, including the supplemental Nights, now entitled: The Book of the Thousand Nights and a Night. 12 vol. gr. in-8, reliés toile. 1896. 170 fr.

**Chansonnier historique** du XVIIIe siècle, publié avec introduction, commentaire, notes et index, par E. Raunié. 10 vol. in-8 sur papier de Hollande, av. portraits à l'eau-forte. 1879–1884. (100 fr.) 35 fr.

***Chassiotis** (G.). L'Instruction publique chez les Grecs depuis la prise de Constantinople par les Turcs jusqu'à nos jours. 566 pp., gr. in-8, av. 4 cartes en couleurs. 1881. (25 fr.) 10 fr.

**Chevalier** (Ulysse). Répertoire des sources historiques du moyen-âge. Topo-bibliographie. L'ouvrage sera complet en 6 fascicules in-4 à 2 colonnes, de 528 col. environ chacun. En vente les fasc. 1 et 2. Prix du fascicule 9 fr.
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Bibliothèque grecque vulgaire.

***Fables Esopiques,** mises en vers par *Georges l'Etolien*, et publ. pour la 1re fois d'après un manuscrit du Mont Athos, par *Emile Legrand.* Gr. in-8, imprimé à 100 ex. seulement sur papier de Hollande. 1897. 15 fr.
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***Foulche-Delbosc** (R.). Bibliographie des Voyages en Espagne et en Portugal. Gr. in-8, 1896. 12 fr. 50

***Frœhner** (W.). Terres cuites d'Asie. Collection Jules Gréau décrite et publiée. 2 vol. in-folio, en cartons, texte et 120 planches en héliogravure teintée. 1891. (150 fr.) 60 fr.

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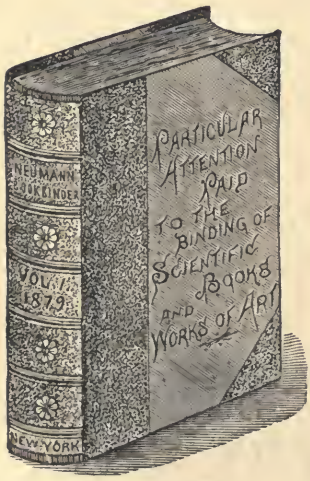


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V. If books from England, France, and Germany are ordered, these books will congregate at New York from where they will be sent in one shipment, thereby saving the expense of packing, freight, consular fees, Custom House charges, cartage, etc.
VI. Of all publications, appearing in consecutive volumes or parts, a list is kept here and abroad and continuations are sent as soon as published, without a reminder from the Librarian.
VII. Being provided with a large Bibliographical material of all European countries and with a collection of Catalogues of second-hand books, I am enabled to give quotations on nearly all European and American publications, new or old.
VIII. Special attention is given to the procuring of second-hand books and Sets of Periodicals, of which I keep a large stock on hand, constantly refilling by buying whole Libraries and by attending auction sales.
IX. Binding is done carefully in Europe under supervision of my clerks, and pattern is kept of the binding of every first volume, so as to insure a uniformity of the succeeding volumes.
X. Periodicals supplied cheaper, quicker, and in better shape than if ordered by mail from Europe.
XI. American Publications at lowest rates.

**The following is a list of some Sets of Periodicals on hand:**

(The list will be changed from time to time.)

**American Naturalist,** Vol. 1–25. Philadelphia, 1868–91. Bound.
**Annales des Sciences naturelles,** I. Series complete. 33 Vols. Paris, 1824–33. Half calf.
**Annalles des Sciences naturelles: Zoologie, Paleontologie.** Series II. to VII. complete. 109 Vols. Paris, 1834–92. Half morocco.
**Annals and Magazine of Natural History.** Complete Set, 106 Vols. London, 1838–1889. Half morocco.
**Journal of Royal Asiatic Society** of Great Britain and Ireland. I. and II. Series. 46 Vols. London, 1834–94. Half morocco.
**Jahrbücher für National Oekonomie und Statistik.** Complete Set. 1863–94. Bound.
**Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science.** Complete Set, 37 Vols. London, 1853–89. Half calf.
**Monthly Microscopical Journal.** Complete Set, 33 Vols. London, 1869–92. Half calf.
**Jahrbuch für Mineralogie.** Complete Set, 89 Vols. Stuttgart, 1830–91. Half calf.
**Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London.** Complete Set, 47 Vols. London, 1845–91. Half morocco.
**Transactions of the Geological Society of London.** Complete Set. London, 1811–56. Half calf.
**Zeitschrift d. d. Morgenländ. Gesellschaft.** Complete Set. Leipzig, 1847–89.

Parties going abroad will find it in their interest to make their headquarters at my offices at London, Paris, or Leipzig and make use of the services of my representatives. Books may thus be bought in any part of Europe and charged and sent to the New York firm, according to special arrangement.

**GUSTAV E. STECHERT, 9 East 16th Street, New York.**

KAY PRINTING HOUSE, 66-68 CENTRE STREET, NEW YORK.

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. JULY, 1897. No. 7

THE second Philadelphia conference of the American Library Association has added another to the list of large and successful meetings that form milestones in the history of the association. Philadelphia, the birthplace of the A. L. A., proved itself again one of the most hospitable and delightful of meeting-places and it was the general sentiment that there had never been a conference at which the local arrangements for comfort and enjoyment were more wholly admirable. The registered attendance of over 300 was thoroughly representative and the program, that at first sight seemed overwhelming in its extent, proved possible of accomplishment without excessive stress. Naturally, the anniversary aspect of the conference received considerable emphasis. In the president's address, in the welcome at the Historical Society, and in the speeches at the public meeting, the progress of the association during its minority was reviewed, and in the record of the past was found direct inspiration for the future. There were present a number of those who had attended the first meeting of the association, and the links between past and present were brought closely home to all by the election to the offices of president and secretary of the same men who held those posts at the beginning, and to whose energy and devotion so much of the first impulse of the association were due — a choice that is of special interest and fitness as sending to a second international conference an A. L. A. delegation under the same leadership as was the similar delegation to the first international meeting held 20 years ago.

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PROBABLY the most important business transacted at Philadelphia, so far as the general policy of the association is concerned, was the amendment to the constitution proposed by Mr. Dewey. This was suggested as a means of meeting the difficulties in the direction of a body of the size to which the A. L. A. has attained, and at the same time obviating any necessity for a limitation of membership. It provides for an increase of the number of councillors at large from 20 to 25 and for the representation on that council, in addition, of each state or local library association by one or more delegates according to the size of the association. This would provide for a directive body thoroughly representative of the association as a whole, familiar with its needs — local as well as national — and compact enough to be easily handled. Such a plan, it was pointed out, would make it possible to obtain for questions of policy and administration a more thorough and careful consideration than it is practicable to give them in a crowded and busy conference, and would be effective in strengthening the organization of the association and adding to its working force. The suggestion is an interesting one, which will come up for action at the next conference, and it should have the careful consideration of all interested in the future of the A. L. A., as indicating a line of development that would combine effective organization with the widest possible extension of scope and membership.

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IN several respects the conference set at naught expectations and predictions. The matter of the reincorporation of the association, first presented at the special meeting called in New York in February, and then referred for decision to the Philadelphia conference, was a subject on which definite action was expected. There seemed to be, however, a lack of agreement as to its advisability, and its consideration was indefinitely postponed after the briefest sort of discussion. The selection of Chautauqua Lake for the place of next meeting came also as a surprise to many who felt that the need of library missionary work in the south should bring the A. L. A. to Atlanta in 1898. The essential factor in this decision was undoubtedly the conviction, that developed throughout the conference, that city meetings, even when most valuable and delightful, tend to lessen the effectiveness of a conference as regards the freshness and energy with which its program is considered. There can be, indeed, little doubt that after three successive years of city conferences the change to the quiet of a summer resort, removed from the delightful distractions of city hospitality, is thoroughly desirable, and it is probable that the refreshment hoped for at Chautauqua Lake in '98 will be the best possible preparation for an active "missionary" conference in '99.

THE appointment of the new librarian of congress does not come as a surprise to those familiar with the trend of affairs at Washington within the last few weeks, but it is no less a matter of regret and discouragement to all interested in the development of what is in fact, if not in name, our national library. The tacit removal of the Library of Congress from any civil service restrictions, which is implied by this appointment, is unfortunate enough in itself, but when to that is added the selection of a librarian whose chief qualification for the office seems to lie in political preferment, and who will act as chief executive of the library during the most critical period of its existence, the situation becomes immeasurably worse. It would seem to indicate that the library had been turned over as a fair field for the spoilsmen and that the assignment of the large administrative force authorized for the new building, on the wise appointment of which the future of the library so largely rests, will be conducted on the principle of "patronage," not of fitness. In this connection the appointment of Mr. Green as superintendent of the library building is especially welcome. Long intimately associated with the new building, thoroughly familiar with all its details, and animated by the single purpose of adding to its efficiency in every possible way, he is undoubtedly the right man in the right place, and his practical skill and executive ability should prove effective factors in the future of the library. Mr. Spofford's continued connection with the library with which he has so long been identified is fitting, and he is to be congratulated on laying down the extra burdens that have long overtaxed his energies. For the rest, the library profession can but trust that affairs may prove less unpromising than now seems the case, and reserve judgment until it can be based definitely upon results.

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FROM the seamy side of library matters at Washington it is a relief to turn to a pleasanter aspect of the same subject, and to note the hearty recognition accorded by the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A. to the admirable work done by the superintendent of documents and his staff in bringing order out of the chaos of government publications. Such strides forward in the organization and cataloging of public documents have been made since the passage of the act of 1895, of which Superintendent Crandall's document index for the first session of the 54th congress is the latest evidence, that the library profession was generally concerned over the rumors, started soon after the accession of the new administration, of the removal of that capable officer. There are in most of the government departments positions, as those of heads of bureaus, in which, though the officer is subject to removal by each incoming administration, a capable public servant is usually retained because in such places the need of experience and training is unanimously recognized. The office of superintendent of documents, which is practically the head of a bureau under the public printer, is peculiarly one of this sort, and so long as that office has a capable and enterprising head the country will be the gainer by keeping that particular head in office. When it was learned that Mr. Crandall was in danger of removal, there was a marked expression of sentiment on the part of librarians in his behalf, and it is gratifying to note that this action has been effective, or that the removal was not contemplated, and that we still have at the head of this important office a man who has so thoroughly proved his fitness for the place.

## Communications.

### *A SUGGESTION FOR CHARGING SYSTEMS.*

IN Mr. Pennock's description of the Browne charging system in the June LIBRARY JOURNAL he mentions as its greatest fault that "in busy times it is easy for the person discharging to take from the case the wrong book-card and put it into the pocket of the book to be discharged."

This would be a serious objection to any system, and it is a common cause of trouble, I suspect, in every system using a book's card and a pocket in the book to keep it in.

A remedy is to put the *accession number* of the book in red ink on the right hand upper corner of the book's card and on the corresponding corner of the book's pocket. The two red ink entries should be visible side by side as the charge card rests in its receptacle in the book.

This will prove most useful at all times. It is an unerring identification of the book's most important member. I should think it would be indispensable where there are several copies of the same book in the library. The act of noticing the second identification while discharging a book will soon become habitual, but none the less decisive.

CHARLES WESLEY SMITH.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, Seattle, Wash.

## THE PUBLIC SCHOOL AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

By Aug. F. Foerste, *High School, Dayton, O.*

What can the public library do for the public school? We, in the teaching profession, do not need to learn this.

What can be done to make the public school use the library? Ah! That is another question. And alas, what answer shall we give? I believe it all depends upon the teacher. If his teaching is a living thing to him and his pupils they will want to know much not taught in the class-room; they will wish to widen their horizon, where interest leads the way. If the work of the teacher is perfunctory, rules and regulations may oblige the pupil to make use of the library, but the pupil would be better off if he remained at home and did not learn to consider the public library his enemy.

Given, however, the inspiring teacher and the willing pupil, what can the library do for the pupil and what can be done to insure the ability of the pupil to find his material readily? What can the library do towards the general enlightment and culture of the boy or girl of school age? Will you permit me to answer this question by telling some of the things which we are doing at Dayton, Ohio? The ideas are not new, but it may be an inspiration to some to learn what has been done in a city not of large size.

### THE PUBLIC MUSEUM.

A museum occupies the upper floor of the library building. It is especially rich in the various departments of natural history and science: alcoholic specimens of animals from the sea-shore, and of fish; shells, butterflies, stuffed animals and birds; skeletons of the chief representatives of the vertebrate animals, models showing the development of animals from the nucleus to the adult; fossils, drled plants, and numerous photographs of botanical specimens; also decorative marbles and other rocks, showy minerals; a very interesting coln collection, numerous Indian antiquities, ethnological specimens from all parts of the world, old and rare books, and curious weapons of war.

The museum is almost entirely the contribution of the citizens. When it was begun the existence of so much material in the city was not suspected by the best-informed. Its subsequent growth has been a surprise to all concerned. The janitor in charge of the public library takes care of the museum. Several volunteers of special ability arrange the exhibits. The museum is open free to all, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of each week from 1 to 5 o'clock. It is under the auspices of the library board, which expends a portion of its funds for the maintenance and improvement of this part of its work. Dr. Conklin, a member of the library board, has been one of the chief supporters of the museum movement.

It soon occurred to the teachers of the common schools that the museum contained much material illustrative of facts mentioned in school readers and geographies. The products, mode of life, and sometimes even the dress of distant countries were illustrated by articles gathered here. The more enthusiastic teachers carefully searched the museum for material of service to them and their work, and brought their pupils after school hours for a half hour's ramble among these interesting treasures.

On Saturdays the children of the common schools come in crowds, full of questions for the obliging attendant regarding objects which strike their attention. The collections of animals, birds, butterflies, shells, plants, and fossils are a revelation to many who do not often see the country, and it stimulates their love for and interest in nature to a marked degree. No collection in a school-room can, at a glance, reveal to a pupil the wonderful abundance and variety of the outdoor life in his immediate vicinity as does the public museum, with its shelves loaded with choice treasures.

There is a legitimate connection between the public school, the public library, and the public museum.

### THE DISTRICT SCHOOL-ROOM LIBRARY.

The public library has recently purchased over 2000 books covering all departments of general literature, history, travel, and science. The selection was made with special reference to their use by children in the various grades of the district schools. These books are not included in the general circulation of the library. Each school-room in the city, containing children above the lowest three, the primary grades, is supplied with a list of books whose number is half that of the scholars present in the room. As soon as finances will permit, this number will, of course, be increased, until it at least equals that of the children in the room.

The selection for each room is made by the teacher of that room, at the library, under the guidance of the librarian, if desired. The books are placed in a small bookcase with wooden doors, so that the case, when closed, will not require delicate handling, and the books are then conveyed by the library to the district school-room for which they have been selected.

The teacher is accredited by the library with every book chosen. The pupils are accredited by the teacher with each book taken home. Books may be retained by pupils for 10 days. If a part of the books are found not suitable, or not interesting for the children of any grade, the teacher may return them at any time, and secure, in exchange, others more suitable. No books be may retained in any school-room longer than 90 days. This makes it possible to secure a greater variety of books during the year for the different school-rooms than is possible if the limited number of books selected for each grade were retained during the entire year.

It will be noticed that the books are intended for home reading and have no special reference to school-work. The intention is not to supplement the instruction given by the teacher, but to cultivate a taste for good, healthful, and useful literature, to supplant the unwholesome novel, and other literature of many homes, to give higher ideals of life, to arouse interest in nature, to give opportunity for the development of early scientific and mechanical genius. Since these notes were written, the excellent article on "School libraries," by Miss Doren, published in the April number of this JOURNAL, has appeared. The spirit of this article is reflected in the management of the district school libraries and accounts for the loyal support given by the teachers to this new departure.

What shall be done with the books of the school-room libraries during the summer months?—during the three months when there is no school? Shall they remain idle or continue their mission among the youth of our city? The Public Library intends to answer this question by collecting all the district school library books, placing them in some convenient room in the library building, and devoting this room to the use of children. If desired the books may be taken home. In the fall they will be returned to the school-rooms.

### THE BOY'S CORNER.

The library has started but not developed the Boy's Corner. The idea is a good one, but to be a success it should be located in a room away from the disturbing influence of persons going and coming for the exchange of books, reading newspapers, and other purposes. It should be in the charge of a regular attendant. The Boy's Corner is a good place for a rainy or idle day. Here the duplicate copies of magazines, bound or otherwise, should be freely accessible. It is a good place for looking at illustrations, in all sorts of books, glancing hurriedly at the text when anything strikes the attention. Several copies of the *St. Nicholas*, *Youth's Companion*, and kindred periodicals should be found here. The attendant should understand children as well as books. Why not also a Girl's Corner?

### THE TOPICAL LIBRARY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL ROOM.

For a number of years high school teachers have been permitted to draw from the library 10 books connected with their school-work, and to retain them for a month. These books are placed upon the teacher's desk in the school-room; they may be read during the vacant periods by any pupils, and under certain restrictions may be taken home for a limited time, the teacher remaining responsible for the book. The books are replaced from month to month, so as to correspond with the character of the work carried on in each department. Some of the teachers still retain this practice, believing that a book at the teacher's desk is more likely to be consulted than one at the library, several squares away.

### THE TEACHER'S SHELF AT THE LIBRARY.

During the present year each teacher of the high school has been granted the privilege of having one or two shelves at the library building reserved for the special use of his pupils. These shelves are accessible to scholars without seeking permission. The teacher selects any books considered desirable for use by the pupils. Sometimes nearly 50 books are upon the shelf of a teacher at the same time. The selection is usually based upon the immediate work of the class, and is explanatory of some special topic.

Pupils are expected to read only those portions of the books bearing upon the subject under investigation. They are supplied with references indicating for each book the page and chapter of special interest.

Since the high school is run upon the one-session plan, and is dismissed at one o'clock, a

large part of the afternoon is free for such work.

The teacher's shelf at the library has the advantage of permitting the use of a much larger number of books, especially of books which are heavy and unwieldy. The use of periodical literature, the bound and unbound copies of the magazines for many years, of encyclopædias and other works of reference, is also more readily obtained by this plan.

It is believed that the teacher's shelf should be made a special department of the library work, and a room should be provided for this purpose, capable of seating at least 100 pupils. In a library of moderate size it might be under the supervision of only a single attendant.

TOPICAL SELECTION OF BOOKS.

The subjects of Civics, History, English literature, and Botany are especially rich in materials for topical study at the library. This may be illustrated by the following scheme, hurriedly drawn up at my request by Mr. E. G. Pumphrey, teacher of history:

TOPICAL STUDY OF HISTORY.

A. *General history.*

1. Geography. — Extracts selected from books of travel describing natural features of the countries.
2. General view. — "Story of the Nations series" and histories written for the Chautauqua course.
3. Biography. — Interesting lives of the representative men of the nation under consideration.
4. Customs. — Standard work of fiction, where there is one for that country and period. Extracts from good historians.
5. Events. — Graphic accounts of important events selected from history, fiction, and drama. Poems commemorating important events.
6. Progress. — Books of travel by which to discover present conditions and compare with earlier conditions of society.

B. *Special study of one nation.*

Practically the same method as is indicated above, carried out into details.

The history divided into periods; periods examined with reference to —

a — Internal affairs of the nation itself.

b — Contemporaneous history as affecting the nation under study.

TOPICAL STUDY OF LITERATURE.

In the line of English literature the selections made for the teacher's shelf include all the lives of the author, all biographical studies in magazines and elsewhere, all critical reviews, any information of interest in connection with the special work under investigation; books of travel, where explanatory of the setting of a drama, novel, or poem.

TOPICAL CARD CATALOGS.

A topical card catalog is an index to the wealth of the library in books referring to the same subject. If students are expected to use the library there must be books to use, and there must be enough books to enable many students to utilize the library at the same time. This does not necessarily imply a great duplication of books.

Most libraries which have been in existence 25 years have an accumulation of magazines which rarely do full duty when once bound. "Poole's index" and other indexes give only the titles of articles, often not suggestive of the subjects discussed within. To index this material thoroughly must be the work of the teacher in each department. An index once made should be preserved for future use. What better form of preservation than a carefully-prepared card catalog, deposited in the library?

The same need of a topical index applies also to the books, even to the technical ones. Titles are often not suggestive of the material within. There should be a card catalog. Students should not be asked to look up information unguided. Work of more value than the unassisted hunting for possible information should be required of them.

Believing thoroughly in the need of a card catalog for the guidance of pupils, the writer has prepared such an index for the students of botany. It includes references to all technical books on botany, to popular writings on this subject, to encyclopædias, to books of travel, to works on general nature study, to magazine articles, and to works on bees, butterflies, and other insects whose frequent visits to flowers make their habits and structure of interest also to the general botanist.

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It may be encouraging to those living in towns having libraries not of the largest size, to learn that the subjects of interest to children, and especially suitable for investigation, are

most frequently discussed in a popular, attractive way, and are most frequently illustrated in the popular magazines and in the less technical journals, the *Popular Science Monthly* and the *American Naturalist*.

The following subjects belong to this list: Plant enemies and protective agencies in plants; insectivorous, pitcher, and parasitic plants; the sleep of cotyledons, leaves, and flowers; other motions of plant organs and their purpose; the folk-lore of plants.

In some cases the information was so abundant as to require sub-headings; for instance:

*The dissemination of seeds:*

Self-burial of seed-pods and seeds.
Seeds projected to a distance by pods.
Creeping seeds.
Sticky seeds, covered with mucilage.
Seeds carried by birds.
By animals.
By wind.
Seeds rolled by the wind.
Tumble-weeds.
Seeds which mimic animals.
Protective agencies in seeds.

*Cross-fertilization:*

Self-fertilization.
Wind-fertilization.
Attractions for insects.
Color; compound flowers; inflorescences.
Odor; nocturnal flowers.
Nectar; nectaries.
Stamens of different lengths.
Humming-birds.
Flowers as insect traps.
Bees perforating corollas.
Mouth parts of insects which visit flowers.
Protective agencies in flowers.
Shelter against rain and dew; closing in bad weather.
Prepotency of pollen.
Movements of stamens and styles.

The more technical information is provided for in a similar manner.

### THE DUTY OF THE TEACHER.

The duty of the teacher to the library cannot be too strongly urged. No one knows better than the teacher what books are most in range of children's intellects; no one is better able to recognize the value of a book for work or for inspiration. The teacher should frequent the book-stores, should be familiar with the latest publications, should be a ready and cheerful helper to the librarian in giving all possible assistance and information belonging to his craft, cheerful even if his suggestions are not always followed, and ever mindful of his pupils.

An enthusiastic teacher is an inspiration for all with whom he comes in contact. When his worth is genuine, his criticism mild, but his helping hand ever ready, he will find that the most conservative library board will melt before the genial warmth of his entreaties, and the librarian will welcome his ready assistance. How can the pupil escape the infection?

## CO-OPERATION IN PROVIDENCE LIBRARIES.*

By W. E. Foster, *Librarian Providence (R. I.) Public Library.*

The three libraries referred to in the measures here described are the Providence Athenæum (60,000 volumes), the Brown University Library (90,000 volumes), and the Providence Public Library (80,000 volumes), representing a total of 230,000 volumes in a city of about 150,000 population.

The three libraries thus represent three well-known types, which are ideally well adapted for co-operation with each other, namely the public library, the shareholders' library, and the college library.

These types are the ones not infrequently met with in communities of a similar size. In one respect a marked difference is to be noticed between the favorable conditions existing in Hartford, where effective co-operation exists, and those in Providence. Instead of being in any instances under one roof as in Hartford, the three libraries referred to are all scattered, the greatest distance between any two of them being about three quarters of a mile. But in all other respects than this, the conditions for co-operation are most favorable, and may be considered under the three following heads:

(1) Methods connected with accessions to the libraries; (2) those relating to their use; (3) those relating to their cataloging.

(1) *Methods connected with accessions to the libraries:* The fundamental question here is

* Read at joint meeting of New England library associations at Hartford, Ct., Feb. 3, 1897.

that of differentiation and co-ordination, so that, taking the community as the unit, it shall result that in some one at least of the three libraries approximately everything required shall be found. It is needless to say that this ideal is never reached and that even in the case of so intelligently elaborate methods as those recently formulated by the Crerar Library in connection with the other Chicago libraries, the result is approximate only. So much the more, consequently, is the necessity a binding one in communities of no greater size than Providence, for the most intimate understanding among the libraries in regard to the purchases to be made. Several practices have greatly furthered this understanding; (1) a regular monthly meeting of the librarians of the three libraries, giving frequent opportunity for comparing notes and consultation; (2) the presence of one and the same person on two of the library boards at the same time, thus giving an opportunity for the development of each library's policy with fuller knowledge of what is done at the other library; (3) frequent interchange of lists of accessions among the different libraries as outlined below.

The discrimination in purchasing referred to includes not merely whole classes of literature (the public library, for instance, possessing an exceptional collection on slavery and the rebellion, which makes it unnecessary for the other two libraries to go beyond certain well-defined limits in this field, and the Brown University library in like manner a collection of American poetry, of which the same is true), but also in the case of individual works, particularly those of great magnitude or expense. Thus during the past year, by general agreement, to one of these libraries has fallen Mr. Thwaites' reprint of the Jesuit relations, to another the Jeypore Architectural drawings, and to another the "Acta et decreta" of the Roman Councils (the possessing of all three of these by each one of the three libraries separately being out of the question).

(2) *Methods relating to the use of the libraries:* From what has been said under the first heading, it is plain that the fundamental principle connected with the accessions to the libraries is, that the community is the unit to be kept in mind, rather than the constituency of any one of the libraries separately. To a large extent the same principle must be recognized in dealing with the use made of the libraries, although no one needs to be told how great are the inherent difficulties in this field. The public library, of course, presents none of these difficulties, since its constituency is avowedly the whole community. The college library also presents only a limited number of these difficulties, since, while the basis of its circle of readers is originally the body of its under-graduates and the body of its graduates, few college libraries have found it impossible to extend their privileges to the body of scholarly readers outside those limits. But it is in connection with the shareholders' library, the very nature of whose existence is one of limitations and exclusion, that the very real difficulties are met with. And yet, taking the nature of its organization into account, no one of these three libraries has more completely responded to the needs for co-operation in this field than has the Providence Athenæum — the shareholders' library in question. Its new constitution, in fact, (revised during the past two years and since the measures for co-operation have been under way), may be considered a triumph in its line, in that, while doing no injustice to the rights of shareholders, it gives the maximum accommodation possible in connection with the needs of non-shareholding readers. One of its provisions is that the librarian *ex-officio* of the Brown University library, and the librarian *ex-officio* of the Providence Public Library shall be considered shareholders of the Providence Athenæum.

The obvious result is that, from time to time, books which in the judgment of the librarians of these two other libraries should be made accessible to some of their readers, are secured for them, but without the embarrassment of charging them in the names of these non-shareholding readers. It is needless to say that this privilege is one which will never be abused, and it supplies the necessary link in the scheme whereby any book really needed by any reader in the city for scholarly purposes can be made accessible to him, no matter in which library it belongs.

(3) *Methods relating to the cataloging of the libraries:* The *Monthly Bulletin* published by one of these libraries (the Providence Public Library), has seemed to offer a convenient medium for co-operative work in this field. By placing the initials A and B (indicating respectively Providence *A*thenæum and *B*rown University library) against the entries of such works in the *Monthly Bulletin* as are also in those othei two libraries, the double purpose is served of keeping the public informed in which or in how many of the libraries a given acces-

sion is to be found, and also of supplying to the purchasing committees of the libraries themselves the information necessary for avoiding unwelcome duplications. A further extension of this same principle is to be found in the nearly 40 pages of additions to the other two libraries printed in the last *Bulletin* of the year, supplementing the entries in the monthly numbers indicated by A and B, and thus making it possible for the reader to have between the covers of the *Monthly Bulletin* at the end of the year a record of all the books added to all three of these libraries for the period referred to.

These three libraries have also been in the habit of uniting in the publication of the list of their periodicals, serials and annuals; but in this field it has seemed desirable to enlarge the participation in the co-operative list so as to cover 20 libraries and reading-rooms in all. By including several which are not within the city of Providence, such specialties are covered as law, medicine, history, astronomy, naval science, and agriculture, (in the form of the State Law Library, the Rhode Island Medical Society Library, etc.)

The co-operative list thus made up comprises over 1100 entries, and is of constant and most emphatic service to an extremely wide circle of readers and students.

In this form it will appear each year in one of the numbers of the *Monthly Bulletin*.

Briefly summarized, the Providence co-operative methods comprise as among the most significant features, the monthly meeting of librarians, a complete understanding among the different library boards, and the use of printer's ink wherever practicable.

## THE VALUE OF MAPS.

In the recent (33d) report of the Watkinson Library, Mr. Gay emphasizes the value of maps in a library and suggests that in the development of a department of history more attention should be paid to the cartographical side. "Old maps give a most valuable object lesson. They show, as is in no other way possible, political changes, economic conditions to failure or success; why battles were lost or won; territorial extension and how growth was helped or hindered, and better even than the printed book do they reveal the ideas and knowledge which man had of any particular part of the world at a certain date." He points out that old atlases and maps are being rapidly absorbed by the greater libraries, and that a library desiring them should not delay if it hopes ever to purchase them.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO AN INDEX TO THE LITERATURE OF METEOROLOGY.*

The preparation of a general index to the literature of meteorology received the first official recognition in 1879, at an international conference of meteorologists held in Rome. The subject was brought to the attention of the conference by Dr. Hellmann, of the Prussian Meteorological Institute in Berlin. A committee was appointed to consider the matter and report at a meeting to be held in Berne the following year. The committee reported in favor of the preparation of national bibliographies — these to be combined later into a general catalog. Upon the adoption of this report by the conference, Dr. Hellmann immediately set to work to prepare a bibliography of Germany's contributions to the literature of meteorology and terrestrial magnetism. In 1883 the work was completed by the publication of his "Repertorium der Deutschen Meteorologie."

This was the first and only one of the national bibliographies to reach the stage of printing. In 1881 Gen. Hazen, then chief signal officer of the army and director of the national bureau, undertook to combine the then existing card catalogs of meteorology, to add to this collection by special research, and to print the general catalog at government expense. As soon as this became known, efforts to prepare national bibliographies ceased and all combined to aid Gen. Hazen in his undertaking. Mr. G. J. Symons, of London, contributed nearly 20,000 titles, Prof. Abbe turned over to the bureau the titles extracted from the Royal Society's "Catalogue of scientific papers" — about 12,000 in number. These two collections formed the basis of what is at present a card catalog of about 75,000 titles of books, pamphlets, and articles in serial publications relating to meteorology. All available sources were searched for additional titles by the bibliographers in charge of the work — Mr. C. J. Sawyer, now of New York, and Mr. O. L. Fassig, of the U. S. Weather Bureau — and the catalog was classified and prepared for the printer by the close of the year 1887. Having failed in his efforts to secure the necessary appropriation for printing, the chief signal officer and later chief of the Weather Bureau continued to have material collected until the catalog was brought down to the close of the year 1892, when the work of collection ceased. In 1889 to 1891 four parts of the catalog were issued under the direction of Gen. Greely, chief signal officer, but only a few copies — about 250 of parts 1 and 2 (lithographed) and about 150 of parts 3 and 4 (milleographed) — were issued. Part 1 comprises the titles relating to Temperature; Part 2, Moisture (Rainfall and related phenomena); Part 3, Winds; Part 4, Storms.

The card catalog is at present in the library of the U. S. Weather Bureau in Washington. The prospects for having it brought down to date and printed are not hopeful.

*Abstract of a paper by O. L. Fassig, read before the Library Association of Washington City, May 26.

There are but few additional contributions of note to the bibliography of meteorology. The catalog of the library of the Hamburg Naval Observatory, published in 1890, contains about 10,000 titles of works mostly meteorological. There is another catalog, somewhat smaller, though still important — that of the Royal Meteorological Society of London, issued about 1890.

In the report of the Chicago Meteorological Congress of 1893, published by the U. S. Weather Bureau in 1895 and '96, there is an excellent list of the most important works in meteorology published prior to 1700, being titles, with full bibliographical details, of works in the library of Dr. Hellmann, of Berlin. This same gentleman, who has done so much for the history and bibliography of meteorology, has been issuing a series of fac-simile reprints (at present nine in number) of early and rare meteorological works, which contain valuable bibliographical lists. The series is entitled "Neudrucke von Schriften und Karten über Meteorologie und Erdmagnetismus," published by Ascher & Co. in Berlin.

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## PORTRAIT INDEX.

### PRELIMINARY LIST OF BOOKS TO BE INDEXED.

*Concluded.*

*Montfaucon. Les monumens de la monarchie française. P. 1729.
**Monthly mirror.* 1795–1810.
*Montrosier. Les chefs d'œuvre d'art au Luxembourg. P. 1881.
*Moore. Heroes and martyrs. N. Y. 1861.
*Morgan. Catalogue of [her] art collection. N. Y. 1886.
Mozley. Henry VII., Prince Arthur and Cardinal Morton. L. 1878.
*Müntz. Hist. de l'art pendant la renaissance. 3 v. P. 1889.
*Murray. Catalogue of the pictures of the Duke of Portland. 1894.
*Musée des antiques.
Musée français. L. 1876.
Musée pour tous. 4 v. P.
**Museum.*
*National historical portraits. So. Kensington loan exhibition. 7 v. L. 1878.
*National portrait gallery. (Cassell's.) 4 v. in 2. 1874–78.
* " " " (Taylor's.) L. 1846.
Naunton. Court of Queen Elizabeth. 1814. (Caulfield edition.)
" Fragmenta regalia. (Dodd ed.) 1824.
**Naval chronicle.*
Nayler. Coronation of George IV. L. 1823.
*New England magazine.*
**New Jersey magazine.*
New York (City) manual of the corporation. 1841–70.
**New London magazine.*
*Nichol's select collection of poems. 1780.
Nicolay *and* Hay. Ab. Lincoln. 10 v. N. Y. 1890.
*Norfolk portraits.
*North. Lives of F. North, Baron Guilford . . . 3 v. L. 1826.
*Old England's worthies. L. 1847.
Oliphant. Hist. characters of the reign of Queen Anne. 1894.
*Omond. Armiston memoirs. Edin. 1887.
*Oncken. Allgemeine geschichte.
Ossorie y Bernard. Galeria biog. de artistas españoles del siglo XIX. Madrid 1883–84.
Pailhès. Chateaubriand, sa femme et ses amis. Bordeaux 1896.
Paris—Salon de. P. 1883–93.
*Paton. Scottish national memorials. 1890.
*Pedrusi. Farnese museo.
**Pennsylvania magazine.*

*Have already been indexed or provided for.

**Penny magazine.*
Pepys. Diary; ed. by Braybrooke. 6 v. L. 1875.
" " " Wheatley. 7 v. L. 1894.
*Perrault. Les hommes illustres qui ont paru en France pendant le siècle. P. 1696.
Petitot. Emaux de Petitot. 2 v. P. 1862.
*Pettigrew. Medical portrait gallery. 4 v. L. 1838–40.
*Pillet. Palais de San Donato catalogue. P.
*Piozzi. Passages from her diary; ed. by Seeley. L. 1890.
*Plutarque français (moyen age). P. 1844.
*Polyanthus.
*Popular science monthly.*
*Portfolio.* L. 1870–95.
**Portrait monthly of N. Y. illustrated news.*
*Portraits of the Athenæum club. 2 v. L. 1836.
Portraits of the British poets. 2. v. L. 1824.
Propert. Hist. of miniature art. L. 1887.
**Putnam's magazine.*
*Rand. One of a thousand. B. 1890.
*Redford. Art sales. 2 v. L. 1888.
Reusner. Icones sive imagines vivorum literature. Seculo XV. 1719.
*Reveil. Museo di pittura e scultura. 13 v. Fir. 1839.
*Review of reviews.*
*Revue encyclopédique.*
*Revue illustrée.* 4 v. P. 1885–87.
*Reynolds, Sir J. Engravings. 2 v. L. 1833.
Ricraft. Survey of England's champions. L. 1647.
*Ritratti de Cardinali. 4 v. no t-p.
*Robillard. Musée française. 5 v. P. 1803–09.
*Rodriguez. Retratos de los reyes de Espana. Madrid 1788.
Royal academy pictures. L. 1892–95.
**Royal magazine.*
*Saunders. Portraits and memoirs of living political reformers. 2 v. L. 1838–40.
*Schuyler Institution of the Society of the Cincinnati. N. Y. 1886.
**Scribner's magazine.*
Seccombe. Lives of 12 bad men. L. 1894.
*Secretan collection. Catalogue. 2 v. P. 1889.
Seidlitz. Algemeines historisches porträtwerk. 6 v. München 1884.
**Sharpe's London magazine.*
Shea. The fallen brave. N. Y. 1861.
*Silvestre. Gallery of contemporary art. 1884.
Sloane. Life of Napoleon. N. Y. 1896.
Smiles. Brief biographies. B. 1861.
*Smith. British mezzotinto portraits. 6 v. L. 1884.
Smith. Iconographia Scotica. L. 1798.
*Society for the diffusion of useful knowledge. Gallery of portraits. 7 v. L. 1833.
*Sommerard. Les arts au moyen age.
South African portraits. N. Y. 1897.
*Spruyt. Lithographies d'apres les tableaux du prince d'Arenberg. Brux. 1829.
Stanton. Hist. of woman suffrage. 3 v.
*Stebbins. Catalogue of paintings and sculpture. N. Y 1889.
Stevenson. Art of Velasquez. L. 1895.
Stirling-Maxwell. Annals of the artists of Spain. 4 v 1891.
*Strahan. Art treasures of America. 3 v. Phil. 188—.
Temple. Masterpieces of art. L. 1894.
Thevet. Les vrais portraits et vies des hommes illustres. P. 1584.
*Thiers. Hist. de la revolution. P. 1845.
Thomson. Barbizon school of painters. L. 1891.
Thornton. Foreign secretaries XIX. century. 3 v. L. 1881.
Thust. Biog. künstler album. Berlin 1867–.
Timbs. English eccentrics. L. 1877.
Treille. Austrasiæ reges et duces. Coloniae 1591.
*Trésor de numismatique et de glyptique. P. 1849.
*True effigies of the most eminent painters. L. 1694.
*Turpin. (*Already entered under La France illustre.*)
**Universal magazine.*
*University magazine.* 1878–.
**Vanity fair album.* 26 v. 1869—.
Vasari. Ritratti di pittori e scultura. Roma 1788.
* " Vite de peu iccellenti pittori. Firenze 1771.
*Vassor. L'histoire du regne de Louis XIII. à Amsterdam 1701.
*Viardot. Masterpieces of French art. 1883.
*Visconti. Iconografia Greca. 3 v. Milan 1821.
Waddy. Cartoon portraits. L. 1873.
Walpole. Anecdotes of painting in England. (Dallaway edition). 5 v. 1828.
Weale *and* Richter. Descriptive catalogue of pictures belonging to Earl of Northbrook. L. 1889.

*Webb. Penns and Peningtons.
West. Laureates of England. N. Y. 1895.
**Westminster magazine.*
*Whitehall review.* L. 1880.
*Wiffen. Hist. memoirs of the house of Russell. 2 v. L. 1833.
Williamson. John Russell. L. 1894.
Wilson, J: W. Collection of. P. 1873.
*Winsor. Nar. and crit. hist. of America.
* " Memorial history of Boston. B. 1880.
*Yriarti. Autour des Borgia. 1891.
" Un condottori au 15e siècle: Rimini. P. 1882.
Zeitschrift fur bildende kunst. Lpz. 1866–95.
Zweihundert bildnisse . . . deutscher männer. Lpz. 1857.

## THE TRIALS OF LIBRARIANS.

*William Mathews in "Nugæ Litterariæ."*

WHAT an amusing book might be written, if he would relate his experiences, by that much-abused and sorely-tried person, the librarian of a great public library! What startling revelations of popular ignorance, almost staggering one's credulity, a veteran like Mr. Cutter, of the Boston Athenæum or Mr. Poole, of the Newberry Library in Chicago, might make! Think of a visitor making a furious complaint, book in hand, as did one at the National Library in Paris, against the carelessness which has found a volume altogether different from the one he asked for—namely, "Le Jardin des Racines Grecques," which is, in fact, the very volume he angrily brandishes. "If," says the official, courteously, "this volume does not contain all the information you want, we have others which are completer and go deeper in the matter. For instance, there is the 'Thesaurus Linguæ Græcæ.'"

"That, sir," replied the visitor, "is nothing to the purpose. I am a gardener, and what I want to know is, how the Greeks laid out their gardens."

Think of a visitor asking, as did one at the British Museum, to be allowed to see "the original samshrift," which, he afterwards explains, "is the foundation of every language under the sun!" Suspecting that a Sanskrit manuscript may be the thing desired, the librarian shows him a palm-leaf ms., which completely satisfies his curiosity. He evidently came expecting to find that "the original samshrift" was a single document which he might touch and handle.

The seemingly intuitive sagacity, the result of long experience, with which the employes in a great library divine the wants of visitors, who give only the vaguest and sometimes wholly misleading hints of the books they wish for, is extraordinary. I was told by one of the officials in the delivery-room of the Boston Athenæum that a lady called there one day and said, "I want a work on nervous prostration." It seems incredible that, even with all her practice in interpreting the imperfectly expressed wishes of visitors, the assistant librarian should have guessed, and rightly, that the lady wanted a novel called "A fashionable sufferer." Another and more enigmatical visitor, an old lady, said, "I want a book that begins with *C*"—a request which, one would think, must have baffled the combined efforts of the officials to discover its reference; but the reference was rightly divined. Still another lady asked for "a book about something in your pocket," by which it was rightly guessed that she meant a work entitled "A strange manuscript found in a copper cylinder"—the only clue being the little preposition *in*. A gentleman asked one day for "a book by a person who lives in Waltham." Knowing that "A humble romance," by Miss Wilkins, of Waltham, was very popular, Miss R. asked if he meant that book, to which the reply was "Yes."

When I was librarian of the Young Men's Library Association in Chicago, some 30 years ago, a rich and fashionable lady sailed into the room one day with an air of conscious importance, and asked, "Have you any of David Copperfield's works?" Another fashionable lady asked, "Have you a page?" When I replied, "You mean a catalog, madam, I presume?" she replied, "Well, page or catalog, either—I don't care which!"

*Per contra*, the visitors at libraries do not monopolize all the blunders. A lady from St. Paul, who asked at the Boston Public Library for "Evelyn's diary" was told that she would find it "below, on the first floor, where all the novels are kept."

## SPECIFICATIONS FOR BOOKBINDING.

CONCISE and practical directions on "How to make out a binder's list," by Edward A. Miller, have been published by Neumann Brothers, 7 E. 16th Street, New York. The directions, which are printed on the back of the binding order blanks issued by Messrs. Neumann, are as follows:

1. Let the lists be typewritten, if possible.

2. If there are several lots of books to be billed separately, let the lists for the different lots be made out on separate sheets.

3. In the first column, number the items consecutively, and let the consecutive numbering run through the entire set sent for binding, even where there are separate bills to be rendered.

4. In the second column, put the number of volumes in each set.

*This is a most important point*, and one that has been neglected in the past.

5. Then put the title of book, or set, in CAPITALS, if typewritten, or *underscore* it, if in manuscript, so that it may at once stand out boldly from the list.

6. Then, if convenient, on a second line, enumerate the separate volumes of a set. This is not essential, and as it is probably extra work, it may be omitted. The total number of volumes of a set is what is essential for the binder.

7. *Arrange the list in absolute alphabet.* In doing this, if there are previous bound volumes of any work, use the title on the bound volume for the new list, not the title on the title-page. Thus, if "The Journal of the American Chemical Society" is lettered on the bound vol-

umes: AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY — JOURNAL, it should appear that way on the list, and be put under "A," not "J." The reason for this is that the binder may be enabled to positively determine whether he has a pattern or not, and, if so, to facilitate finding the same. The pattern, of course, is lettered the same as the bound volumes already turned out.

7a. If a sample accompanies volumes for binding, let the title appear on the list the same as on the sample volume

7b. If there is no sample or pattern for a volume, or set, mark out the title on the list as it is to appear on the bound volume, and the binder will follow it. Thus, if a set of "Frederick the Great," by Carlyle, is to be titled with author's name first, let it appear on the list: CARLYLE — FREDERICK THE GREAT, and put it under "C." The binder will take care of the numbers of the separate volumes of the set, and, as a rule, it is unnecessary to enumerate them.

8. In the column after the title, note the style of binding: ½ mor., ½ roan, cloth, etc., etc.

9. Then leave a column blank, for the binder to fill in his prices. Thus there will be an authentic list and bill, all in one.

10. In the column after the price, put the class number for such volumes for which there is no sample or pattern, and in cases where a change is made in the class or book number, from the one which appears on the last bound volume at the library.

11. Finally in another column may be made such sundry remarks as are necessary. For instance, "bind covers in," "covers and ads at end," "rush this volume," "2 vols. in 1," etc., etc.

12. *Keep down the number of incomplete volumes to a minimum.* Should it be necessary to send any such to the binder, make a separate list of them, and if possible make a note of the missing parts. Very often the main bulk of the work is long finished, and incomplete volumes are still awaiting the arrival of missing parts. If these incomplete volumes were on the same list with the rest of the material, the whole list would have to be held until everything would be complete.

13. In taking the letterpress copies of the list, use two sheets of tissue-paper, and thus get two copies. One to be kept at the library, as a record, until the original is returned by the binder, and the second copy to be forwarded to the binder, at the same time with the original, for him to keep permanently.

14. Where libraries have sufficient assistants, it would be a good plan to mark the serial number (which appears in the first column of the list) in lead pencil, near the upper right hand corner of the title-page of the corresponding book. Where there are several volumes of a set, the serial number to be marked on each title-page, with a line under it; and under that, the number of volumes in the set. Thus, if the serial number is 126 and the number of volumes in the set is five, mark each title-page thus: $\frac{126}{5}$.

15. A very useful check will be found in adding the second column of the list, giving the number of volumes; then, as the books are being packed into the case to be shipped to the binder, in counting the total number of volumes. The latter figure must agree with the addition of the number of volumes.

The following is a reduced fac-simile of the order blank used:

.....To NEUMANN BROTHERS.

☞Use two sheets of tissue-paper in taking letterpress copies of this blank. See direction No. 13 on other side.

| Serial No. | No. of Vols. | TITLE. | Style. | Price. | Class No. Book No. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | |

*See other side for directions.*

## THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE AT BRUSSELS.

THE international bibliographical conference, to be held at Brussels, August 2–4, under the auspices of the Institut International de Bibliographie, will consider the following program:

1. General condition of bibliographical work; the actual condition of bibliography in the various countries and in the various branches of human knowledge; statistics.

2. General organization of a universal bibliographical index.

3. International co-operation; collaboration in a universal bibliographical index:

*a*, by government aid: an authorized office, national bibliographies, catalogs of great national libraries;

*b*, by scientific societies;

*c*, by libraries;

*d*, by publishers;

*e*, by authors;

*f*, by existing periodical bibliographies.

4. International bibliographical classification.

5. Bibliography of various kinds of documents — books, periodicals, publications of societies, journals, official documents, maps, engravings, music.

6. Bibliographies of the several sciences.

7. Editing of bibliographical material — an international code of bibliographical rules regarding the various details of a full bibliographical entry: authors' names, title entry, paging, size, abbreviations, annotations, etc.

8. Publication of bibliographies: arrangement of text, choice of type; form of publication — in parts and on cards; processes of printing — typography, lithography, heliography. Preservation and utilization of stereotype plates.

9. Bibliographical accessories: cards and card-cabinets, extensible bindings, etc.

## American Library Association.

*President:* Justin Winsor, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.
*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

*NINETEENTH CONFERENCE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 21–25, 1897.*

FIRST DAY.

On October 6, 1876, the American Library Association was organized in Philadelphia, and on June 21, 1897, the association celebrated its 21st birthday and inaugurated its 19th general conference in the city of its birth, under the roof of the society in whose rooms its organization was first discussed.

According to the program, Monday, June 21, was the first day of the conference; but so far as actual business was concerned it was, in fact, but a fraction of a day, and the conference proper did not open until Tuesday. The Aldine Hotel had been chosen as headquarters, and all day Monday it was the scene of animated greetings and exchange of welcomes, as arrivals were registered from east and west, north and south. Most of the early comers, after removing the dust of travel, set forth upon exploring tours, and soon found themselves distracted by the multiplicity of points of interest. Sooner or later, most of them gravitated to the Free Library of Philadelphia, where they were made cordially welcome and were escorted by friendly cicerones from the main delivery and book-room to the attic bindery and the cheery staff-room perched high under the eaves. The various details of method and arrangement were explained and examined; the system of free access which prevails throughout the entire library "plant," and the methods of preparing and delivering books for the branches, were of special interest, and to all the visitors the Free Library was an inspiration and an object lesson in its showing of how much may be accomplished by hard work, enthusiasm and persistent devotion. Besides the Free Library, many also visited the fine collection of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, the Wagner Free Institute of Science, and the interesting exhibit of rare books, bindings, and manuscripts shown at the Drexel Institute under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Library Club. This exhibit deserves more than a mere statement of its existence. It was largely a loan collection, gathered from some of the finest private libraries in Philadelphia and New York, and comprised, among many other interesting exhibits, the fine Starr collection of Cruikshankiana, owned by the Rittenhouse Club of Philadelphia, some rare old Schwenkfelder manuscript hymn-books and works from Ephrata Cloister, lent by Judge Pennypacker; a selection of early play-bills, portraits, and autographs of actors and actresses from the collection of Charles N. Mann; a number of fine bronzes, miniatures and autographs relating to Napoleon, lent by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Latta; and the remarkable collection of mss. given to Drexel Institute by the late George W. Childs.

The first session of the conference was held on Monday evening in the building of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, which 21 years before had greeted an assembly of 104 librarians gathered to discuss the feasibility of library organization. The session was wholly informal, the earlier part of the evening being given up to social intercourse and to inspection of the treasures displayed for the interest of the visitors. The fine rooms of the society were handsomely decorated with flowers and potted plants, and the cordiality of the welcome extended had a special pleasure and significance when it was remembered how closely the society and its officers were linked with the beginnings of the association.

At 9:10 the meeting was called to order by President Brett, and a short address of welcome was made by Judge Samuel W. Pennypacker, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, who spoke of the assembly which had been gathered in the society's rooms 21 years ago, and had been welcomed by John William Wallace, then president of the Historical Society. He briefly traced the varied activities that had developed since that first meeting, and emphasized the fitness of Philadelphia, the birth-place of the association, as the scene of the present conference. Mr. Brett replied briefly to Judge Pennypacker's welcome, and called upon one of the original founders of the association, S. S. Green, of Worcester, to respond more fully. Mr. Green's talk was an interesting summary of the development of the association since the centennial year, with brief note of the main land-marks along the path, and it was interspersed with reminiscences of the first members and pioneer workers in the association. The session was closed by Dr. William Pepper with a few words of sincere and hearty welcome, in which he pointed to libraries as a vital part of the civic development of the day, and as an essential factor in good city government, and spoke earnestly of what it was hoped the libraries of Philadelphia might be and do in the development of the best government for the city. The addresses were followed by a supper, served in the main hall on the first floor, which was beautiful in its decorations of palms, roses, and sweet peas, contrasting with the solemn portraits and dark bookcases that lined the walls. The entire building was thrown open to the guests, and it was after midnight before the visitors realized that present social, bibliographical, and hospitable delights must give way to the necessity of rest before the hard work of the morrow.

SECOND DAY.

On Tuesday, June 22, the actual work of the conference began. The Drexel Institute had been placed at the service of the association as the place of meeting, and in its fine auditorium the first business session was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Brett, who after a brief word of greeting delivered his opening address.

The president's address was, fittingly, a retrospect of the work begun and done by the American Library Association during its 21 years of existence and a forecast of work still to be accomplished. At the first meeting of the association there were present 104 members, of whom 13 were women, who came from 16 states and the District of Columbia, and who represented about 100 libraries, including school, college, proprietary, endowed, and public libraries. At that first meeting the problems which librarians have ever since been striving to solve were outlined with prescience, and the work of the association was started along lines of practical and technical detail, with a recognition of the broader phases of the ethical and civic influence of the library. In the appointment of the co-operation committee, made at that meeting, the means of progress were indicated and the keynote of success was struck. Since that time the association has met each year, with but two exceptions, assembling at various points, from the extreme east to the Pacific coast; it has had upon its rolls in all over 1500 members, and its present membership is almost 800; while it has seen a growth in number and importance of libraries and a development of library methods, organization, and administration that are indeed wonderful. "In 21 years or a little more, the libraries of our country have increased over 200 %, have trebled in volume." Essentially, this period of library history has been a constructive one, during which the great library machine has been fitted together in its more mechanical details, and prepared for an epoch of work and extension that promises to exceed that of any previous time and surpass even the hopes of the most sanguine.

It is in the spirit with which it has been carried on that the growth and development of the library is most notable. "As we recognize in man the triune nature, body, mind, and spirit, so in the institution we may see the trinity of material, method, and motive. The library has its body of buildings, appliances, and books; its directing intelligence in method and organization; and its spirit of good will and helpfulness which calls it into existence and gives it vitality and value. This is the true library spirit. It is this which brings to libraries endowments and noble gifts and a generous public support. It is this which impels men and women to give their time, their thought, their effort, their very selves to the work. And it is only by an appeal to this same spirit in those who use the library that it can do its best work. To an institution founded, as a library is, upon generosity and carried on in unselfishness, narrowing rules and hampering regulations are as foreign and repugnant as they are ineffective. The free library can only do its best work by trusting the people to use it, by appealing to their honor and unselfishness, by enlisting their sympathy and securing their help in its work." The future of the library movement, therefore, would seem to tend directly toward freer methods, to more direct and unrestricted contact with the people and to a definite recognition of the library as one of the greatest educational forces in modern life.

Secretary Hayes then presented his report for the year, briefly stating the facts relating to the A. L. A. hearing had before the Congressional Library Committee in December, 1896; the special meeting called to consider re-incorporation in February of this year; and the action taken by the A. L. A. regarding the proposed tariff on books. Then followed the report of the trustees of the endowment fund, read by the secretary, giving the total assets of the fund as $6464.88 without liabilities. On motion of Mr. Peoples the report was accepted and laid over for further consideration.

The report of the Publishing Section, which was then presented by W. I. Fletcher, chairman of the section, was a most interesting review of the various important matters undertaken by the section within the year. The most noteworthy features of its work have been the continuous employment of an assistant secretary, whose time is given to its service, and the preparation and issue by the section of the printed catalog cards formerly issued for three years by the Library Bureau. The publications of the section since the Cleveland conference have been (1) the "Supplement to Sargent's Reading for the young," (2) the annotated "Bibliography of fine art," by Russell Sturgis and H. E. Krehbiel, edited by George Iles, the first of a projected series of expert annotated subject bibliographies, and (3) Miss Hewins's short "List of books for boys and girls," which it is hoped will prove widely useful for distribution among library readers. The work in sight of the section includes the index to portraits, as to which a preliminary statement has already been made (*see* L. J., May, p. 253); the supplement to the "A. L. A. index," which it is hoped to issue in 1898; a new edition of the "List of subject-headings"; an annotated "Bibliography of American history," similar to the "Bibliography of fine art"; a list of French fiction suitable for libraries, and the "Library primer," as to which no definite action has yet been taken, besides a proposed extension of the scope of the printed catalog cards, if sufficient support for the undertaking be secured. The section recorded, with special appreciation, a gift of $100, made by the trustees of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library to aid in its work, and urged the necessity of an increased income, if its work is to be of the greatest practical benefit. In presenting the report, Mr. Fletcher announced that Mr. Iles in a recent private letter had stated his intention to contribute $1000 toward the publication of an annotated bibliography of American history, the main outlines of which had already been planned. The report was accepted, and the amendment to the constitution, by which the section is organized as a board of five members and the annual membership subscription feature is abolished was brought up for consideration. This amendment was presented and approved at the Cleveland conference, and was now passed without dissent, thus becoming legally a part of the constitution. In accepting

Mr. Fletcher's report, a resolution was passed accepting Mr. Iles's generous offer to the Publishing Section and extending to him the thanks of the association. It was also voted that the report of the Publishing Section be printed and placed in the hands of members before adjournment.

The report of the co-operation committee, read by the secretary, emphasized especially the work done during the year in the issue of co-operative catalogs, such as the recent union list of periodicals issued by the Boston Public Library, and the union reference lists given in the bulletin of the New York Public Library. The "Cumulative index" was referred to as demonstrating the availability of the linotype for library uses, and the various bibliographical enterprises of the Royal Society, and the Institut International de Bibliographie, with the discussions as to cataloging and classification aroused thereby in foreign journals, were summarized. The final report of the committee on the lists of select fiction, formerly published by the Massachusetts Library Club, had not yet been made, but it was hoped that the lists might be continued for a further trial. Two interesting fields for co-operation had been opened, in the discussion of books of the year by local associations, as was done in Brooklyn in January, and in the library institute held under the auspices of the Indiana association, and a development of both these ideas would be of much interest and usefulness.

On motion of Mr. Green a resolution was passed requesting the trustees of the endowment fund to present an itemized list of the investments of the fund in their annual report. The report of the committee on public documents was then read by the secretary. It listed as the important events of the year the issue from Superintendent Crandall's office of the catalog of documents of the 53d congress, and the consolidated index for the first session of the 54th congress, both of which have set a new standard for government cataloging. The passage of the Ames index bill was noted, and the work done by the Congressional Library Committee regarding the future of the Library of Congress was briefly reviewed.

Dr. G. E. Wire then presented a verbal report on the Dr. William F. Poole Memorial Fund, stating that about $465 had been collected, and that it was hoped to obtain at the present conference the sum necessary to make up the $500. On motion of Mr. Wing four tellers were appointed and a recess of five minutes was taken for the collection of this sum, at the end of which time it was announced that $44 had been obtained and that the fund was complete.

The report of the committee on state aid, J. G. Whittier, chairman, was read by J. C. Dana; it stated that bills relating to library commissions or travelling libraries were during the year presented in California, Colorado, Georgia, Maryland, Minnesota, Kentucky, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania, but so far without success; and it gave to Wisconsin credit for the most effective and general library progress noted in any state during the year.

The report of the committee on gifts and bequests, read by the secretary, recorded for the 10 months since July, 1896, gifts to libraries amounting to over $40,000 in money, nearly 50,000 v. of books and pamphlets, buildings valued at more than $200,000, and manuscripts, books, and pictures worth nearly half a million dollars, with many other gifts of which the value could not be stated.

The committee on an American libraries clearing-house submitted two reports, which were read by Secretary Hayes. The majority report, signed by R. G. Thwaites, chairman, and J. F. Langton, urged the practicability and importance of establishing a central national bureau for clearance and exchange of publications between libraries in the new Congressional Library building, such a bureau to be conducted by an expert reference librarian, and its work to be a part of the machinery of the Congressional Library, when that library should be fully reorganized in its new quarters. The minority report was submitted by Miss A. R. Hasse, who stated that she had been unable to convince herself that "it is any part of the function of the government to assist the librarian to the knowledge of ephemeral private publications, much less to supply him with such publications gratuitously," that the government was already overburdened with the work of exchange and distribution of documents, and that such a recommendation as that presented by the committee was, under present circumstances, impracticable. Both reports were accepted without action, and the committee was continued for further report at the next meeting.

Invitations from four cities were then read by the secretary, urging the association to hold its next meeting at Omaha, Neb., Lincoln, Neb., Jamestown, N. Y., and Pine Bluff, N. C. The subject of printing certain reports and papers in advance of the meeting was then introduced by the president, and Mr. S. H. Ranck offered a resolution requiring that in future there shall be printed in advance and placed in the hands of members at the annual meeting all such reports and papers as the program committee may deem advisable. In the discussion that followed an amendment offered by Mr. Green was accepted, referring the authority to print to the executive board instead of to the program committee, and the resolution, as amended, was passed. A committee on resolutions was appointed by the president, as follows: W. T. Peoples, Miss H. P. James, and A. W. Tyler, and adjournment was taken until two o'clock.

The afternoon session on Tuesday was devoted to a discussion of the books of the year considered desirable for the supplement to the A. L. A. catalog. Advance copies of the list selected, covering the period from June 1, 1896, to May 15, 1897, were distributed among the members, for reference and criticism, and the session was planned on similar lines as the book-discussion evening of the Cleveland conference. It did not, however, rank in interest or in effectiveness with that discussion, or with the similar session held in Brooklyn in

January this year, owing chiefly to the difficulty in obtaining leaders for the various branches of literature and to lack of time for preparation. The session was conducted by Dr. J. K. Hosmer, and was opened by Miss M. S. Cutler, with the report of the committee on A. L. A. catalog supplement. The committee stated that the result of three years' work on the supplement has impressed them strongly with a sense of the great importance of this system of co-operative book selection, but has also led them to form the following definite conclusions: (1) there must be an enlargement of the responsibility of the committee and fuller consultation with other judges, (2) there must be direct specialization of individual subjects by competent judges, (3) the committee must be assisted by other librarians and by specialists, (4) individual judges must acknowledge responsibility for their votes over their initials if necessary, and (5) a definite basis of selection must be decided upon and its principles stated.

The first subject for discussion on the program was books of the year in sociology, but in the absence of any leader for that topic it was passed by. Books in fine art were briefly presented by Miss Hannah P. James. "Science," unassigned on the program, was taken by Mr. Montgomery, whose terse differentiation of works of science and books by "scientifically disposed" persons, led to some discussion as to the advisability of including in the list much of the "popular" current literature of the day; "History," presented by Mr. Larned, included also biography and travel, and evoked some interesting suggestions as to classification of books that though nominally biography are actually history; "Children's books" were to have been discussed by Miss Hewins, who was unable to be present, and who sent instead a short suggestive paper on the sort of books that the majority of children enjoy. This was read by Miss Linda A. Eastman, who also briefly reviewed the children's books given in the tentative list. Fiction was presented by Miss Helen E. Haines, who said that she feared a devoted novel reader was hardly the person to discuss fiction before librarians, and who "declined to state" how many of the novels listed had been read by her. There was little general discussion, even in fiction, where agreement to disagree is usually unanimous, and the session was adjourned before five o'clock, giving the members opportunity for refreshment in trolley rides, library visitation or other pleasant sightseeing.

For Tuesday evening there had been arranged a change in usual A. L. A. programs in the form of a public meeting at which the general subject of the influence of the library in a community should be presented by various speakers. This session, the fourth of the conference, was held in Horticultural Hall, on Broad street, one of the most elaborately beautiful of the many beautiful buildings of the city. The hall was well filled with an audience of over 800 persons, when at about eight o'clock the meeting was called to order by President Brett, who in a few effective words set forth the purpose of the meeting and introduced Mr. F. M. Crunden as the first speaker of the evening. Mr. Crunden's subject was "What of the future?" and his address was a keen analysis of the changes in the direction of human progress effected during the Victorian era, in which the library, as part of the educational system has been so positive a force, and a forecast for the years to come of what is presaged by the results so far attained.

Prof. Albert H. Smyth followed Mr. Crunden with a masterly short address on what good reading means in the upliftment of life, and what the library should be in inspiring a love for the literature of power, sadly needed in these days when we are becoming less and less a reading people, content to read "books about books, or magazine articles on books about books, or newspaper summaries of magazine articles of books about books." Mr. Jacob J. Seeds, chairman of the finance committee of the common councils of Philadelphia, made a stirring plea for the Free Library of Philadelphia, urging all interested in its work and future to enlist actively in the campaign for an adequate building — a question that is to be submitted to the voters of the city in the fall. W. E. Foster, of the Providence Public Library, spoke effectively of the educational work of the free library and of the influence it can wield in equalizing the difference between the use of the literature of knowledge and the literature of power. Melvil Dewey followed with a brilliant short address on the library as an educational factor, and the necessity, if its educational purpose is to be achieved, of constant watchfulness over the quality of the literature disseminated and constant effort to raise the standard of reading. In conclusion he called upon Dr. Pepper, who in a few earnest words paid a sincere tribute to the work done in Philadelphia by the Free Library and its devoted librarian, John Thomson, and urged the help of all in forwarding the work and increasing the effectiveness of the Free Library. The session was closed by President Brett, and, late though it was, the floor was promptly cleared and the meeting resolved itself into an informal reception, at which was proved again the truth of the A. L. A. adage, "it is never too late to dance."

THIRD DAY.

The program for Wednesday divided the forces of the association, and introduced the novel feature of simultaneous section meetings. This experiment had been looked forward to with interest, as likely to prove a solution of some of the difficulties found in handling a large body of people seeking information on varied topics, and its practical working was highly successful. To be sure, it awakened general regret that individuals as well as programs, were not divisible, and that it was necessary to lose one thing to gain another, but it permitted the consideration of a variety of subjects possible in no other way. There were two simultaneous sessions, one devoted to "College and reference library work," the other an "Elementary session," while the

Trustees' Section, which held a separate and well attended meeting, completed the quota.

The college and reference section was conducted by Mr. Fletcher, and was called to order at 9:30 in one of the class-rooms of the institute. In his opening remarks Mr. Fletcher emphasized the need of establishing this section on a firm and lasting basis, arranging for its direction and for its representation at future conferences, and to this end a committee on organization was appointed, consisting of Willard Austin, Miss Olive Jones, and C. W. Andrews. "The government and control of college libraries" was made the subject of an informal talk by G. W. Harris, of Cornell University, who noted the special points to be observed in the management of these libraries, as distinguished from free public libraries. In the absence of Mr. A. C. Potter, of Harvard, his paper on the "Selection of books for a college library" was read by D. Lansing Collins, of Princeton. It was an effective presentment of the difficulties that beset the college librarian in keeping pace with the hobbies of his professors, and it gave clear and practical suggestions of means by which these difficulties might be minimized. There was no lack of general and brisk discussion, and the subject proved thoroughly interesting. C. A. Nelson, of Columbia, followed with a description of "A bit of classification," being the treatment of Harvardiana by the Harvard Club of New York, which also provoked a cross-fire of question and suggestion. "College instruction in bibliography" was to have been presented by H. L. Koopman, of Brown University, whose notes on the subject were, in his absence, read by Mr. Fletcher. Mr. Koopman outlined the course of instruction given by him for the last two years, which will be somewhat amplified next term. Its purpose has been, not to fit students for library work, but to give them a working knowledge of books and libraries, and thus equip them more thoroughly for business or professional life. The meeting was characterized throughout by animated discussion and continued interest, and the practical suggestions made and received were thoroughly appreciated.

Of the elementary session the same statement as to animation and interest holds good. This meeting, which was held in the library of the institute, began with about 35 present and closed with an audience of well-nigh 100. The *modus operandi* was quite informal, and the conversational atmosphere soon broke down shyness or reserve, and produced a frequent cross-fire of question, answer, and debate. The session was conducted by Dr. G. E. Wire and Miss Eastman, and the first subjects presented were "Cataloging and classification," introduced by Dr. Wire in a brief, crisp talk that brought the point of view of the reader effectively before the librarians. As little machinery as possible, common sense even to the extent of heresy, printed catalogs instead of cards, and dictionary catalogs instead of classed lists were some of the points brought up and argued with animation. In the discussion as to dictionary and classed lists a vote of preference was taken, showing that 32 used the former and 12 the latter form. The discussion was, of course, largely technical, and to the lay mind necessarily cryptic; the 300's, 600's, and other mystic symbols of D. C. and E. C. were tossed back and forth, and there was no lack of "thoughts that voluntary moved harmonious numbers." "Charging systems" were described by Miss Helen Sheldon, of the Drexel Institute, who gave clear instructions in the essentials of the several methods used. Miss Eleanor B. Woodruff, of the Pratt Institute, read a paper on "Reference work," giving a summary of the tools most necessary to the reference librarian, and noting the various ways in which it is possible to help people to help themselves to the resources of a library. This evoked a discussion as to how far the reference librarian should go in helping people over prize puzzles or "missing word" contests, and the general opinion seemed to be that this was outside the province of the library, and that the best course was to supply such inquirers with half a dozen books and leave them to work out their own salvation. It is impossible in a brief abstract to convey a fair idea of the variety of topics and of points of view presented at this session, but in its arrangement, practicality and animation, it reflected high credit on those in charge of it.

The Trustees' Section meeting was called to order in the auditorium of the institute at 10 a.m., by G. A. Macbeth, trustee of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library and chairman of the section. About 15 trustees were present, besides the president and secretary of the A. L. A., Dr. Billings, Mr. Crunden, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Larned, and others. The present rather shadowy basis of the section was briefly outlined by the chairman, who suggested that the section be authorized to reorganize for some special purpose, preferably to support and aid the Publishing Section. The suggestion was approved by Mr. Soule, and Mr. Fletcher then concisely described the work and needs of the Publishing Section. Considerable discussion followed, and it was decided to call a special meeting of trustees in New York during the winter to consider further the reorganization of the section. A committee consisting of Mr. Soule, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Glenn was appointed to report a plan of action, and the section adjourned to meet at two o'clock the following afternoon at the Aldine Hotel.

Wednesday afternoon and evening were devoted wholly to enjoyment of the hospitality so cordially offered by Philadelphia hosts. The first part of this social program consisted of a three hours' drive through Fairmount park and along the Wissahickon, followed by a reception at the beautiful residence of Mr. J. C. Strawbridge, where the visitors were cordially welcomed and where the group photograph was taken, which is reproduced as frontispiece to this issue.* The weather was perfect, as were the arrangements of the local committee, and to

* Copies of this photograph may be had at $1 each by applying to Herbert Hoffman, 914 Arch street, Philadelphia.

all who participated in it that afternoon will long remain a delightful memory. For the evening a concert and reception at Drexel Institute had been planned, which proved a wholly enjoyable finish to a day of much work and much pleasure. The concert, with the organ music by Mr. J. M. Dickinson, was something to be long remembered, and the reception in the beautiful entrance hall, followed by dancing on the tiled floor, was as delightful as it was artistically charming.

FOURTH DAY.

Thursday morning's session was called to order by President Brett at nine o'clock. The first matters considered were the presentation of some belated reports, received after the opening session on Monday. The treasurer's report, covering the period from Sept. 1, 1896, to June 1, 1897, was read by Miss Browne. It showed expenditures of $1744.17, and a balance in the treasury of $1102.20; 138 new members had been added to the list, 101 had resigned, and the total paid membership was stated as 434, which, however, owing to the early date of the present meeting, is hardly a fair estimate. The necrology included one member, Miss Mary J. Doolittle, librarian of the Williams Free Library, of Beaver Dam, Wis. The report was accepted and referred to the finance committee for audit. The report of the finance committee, presented by Mr. Foster, was also accepted.

The subject of the place of next meeting was then introduced. The invitation to Jamestown, or Chautauqua, first presented at the Denver Conference by Miss Hazeltine, was brought up, but in the absence of Miss Hazeltine its consideration was deferred. Miss Anne Wallace then presented an invitation from the mayor and authorities of Atlanta, and urged the claims of the southern city, both as a centre for needed library missionary work in the south, and as a delightful meeting-place otherwise, in such eloquent and winning fashion that had a vote been then taken upon the question there is little doubt the meeting would have stampeded for Atlanta. On motion of Mr. Dewey, however, further discussion of the subject was deferred until the afternoon. The election of officers, which had been given a first place on the morning's program, was also postponed on motion of Mr. Dewey until the afternoon, announcement being made that the polls would be open for voting from 12 to three o'clock.

"The proposed building of the New York Public Library" was then described by Dr. J. S. Billings, who illustrated his remarks with plans of the Chicago Public Library, the Newberry Library, and the Congressional Library, and by a blackboard sketch of the proposed plans for the New York building. As these plans have already been fully described and illustrated in the L. J. (June, p. 296–301), it is unnecessary to comment upon them in detail; they were received with interest and close attention and became the subject of a discussion participated in by Mr. Larned, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Dewey, Dr. Steiner, Dr. Hosmer, Mr. Green, and Mr. Stevens, in which the general scheme outlined by Dr. Billings received hearty approval. On motion of Mr. Elmendorf, a committee of three was appointed to prepare resolutions approving the general plans for the New York Public Library building as submitted by Dr. Billings.

The subject of "The policy of the A. L. A. with regard to reincorporation" was then announced for discussion by President Brett. This had been looked forward to as likely to be the most important business of this year's conference, but there did not seem to be unanimity of feeling as to its timeliness, and results were not what had been expected. Mr. Dewey opened the discussion with a brief statement of the facts leading up to the proposal of reincorporation, and suggested that the association authorize the executive board, when it should seem expedient to them, to take steps toward such reincorporation. There was no general discussion, but on motion of Mr. Larned the matter was postponed until a more opportune time.

After a few moments devoted to business regarding nominations of officers, the report of the committee on travelling libraries was presented by John Thomson, chairman, who gave a most interesting review of the needed work being done by this system, not only in outlying country communities but in those parts of cities that the public library cannot reach. The travelling library, rightly considered, is not an end, but a means, an instrument to teach people the value of good books; and in country places where the travelling library obtains a good foothold it will not be long before its work will be taken up by a small public library. In the absence of Mr. F. A. Hutchins his paper on "Travelling libraries" was read by title, and the meeting adjourned, to reassemble at two o'clock.

The afternoon session was opened promptly, for it had been decided to crowd into this meeting as much of the evening's program as practicable, and to devote the evening to pleasure instead of to business.

The report of the committee on foreign documents was presented by C. W. Andrews, in the absence of the chairman, Mr. Gould; it reported progress and stated that work was well advanced upon a card list of the serial publications of the French government. The report of the auditing committee was presented by Mr. Foster, who also reported that the council had voted to authorize the trustees of the endowment fund "to apply such portion of the interest of the fund as might be necessary to the extinguishment of the notes of the Publishing Section now held."

"The librarian and the importer," by Ernst Lemcke, was the first paper in order. It was a careful and valuable analysis of the business of the importer in all its branches, and especially as connected with the purchase of books for libraries.

This was followed by the reports of several committees. The report of the Trustees' Section was made by Mr. Macbeth, who briefly stated what had been done at the first meeting and said that at the second meeting of the section the Hon. T. Guilford Smith, of Buffalo,

had been elected chairman of the section, with authority to appoint an executive committee of from three to five persons; and that it had been decided to hold a meeting of trustees in New York City during the coming winter. The report of the committee on co-operation with the library department of the N. E. A., in the absence of Mr. Dana, chairman, was made verbally by Miss Ahern, who reported progress, and said that arrangements had been made for giving library matters a place on the program of the N. E. A. meeting to be held in Milwaukee in July. Mr. Dudley in his report for the committee on library editions of popular books, suggested that a new committee be named with a chairman living in New York City and with members living more nearly together than in the previous committee, and moved that the members of the association prepare and send to the committee a list of popular books not procurable in good editions. The report was accepted and the motion adopted. On motion of Mr. Austin it was voted that the A. L. A. appropriate $500 for the use of the Publishing Section, subject to the approval of the council, and on motion of Mr. Larned the publication by the Publishing Section of the supplement to the A. L. A. catalog, when finally revised, was approved.

The place of next meeting was then again brought up, and the claims of Chautauqua Lake were most effectively urged by Miss Hazeltine. A lively cross-fire between the supporters of Atlanta and the advocates of Chautauqua followed, but Mr. Dewey's strong presentation of the need of meeting in a rural resort after three years of city conferences, carried the day, and a rising vote showed 70 for Chautauqua Lake and 53 for Atlanta.

The next subject was "Methods of children's library work as determined by the needs of the children," and this was considered in two papers, the first, by Rev. Edwin M. Fairchild, of Troy, being a comprehensive study of the psychology of child-nature, urging systematic method and trained skill as the prime necessities in directing children's reading. Mr. Fairchild advocated separate children's library buildings, and presented a suggestive plan showing the arrangement desired. The second paper, by Miss Emma L. Adams, of the Plainfield (N. J.) Public Library, emphasized the sympathetic personal aid of librarian or attendant as the key to the whole situation, and urged close relations between school and library as one of the most effective means of helping in the work with the children.

The results of the election of officers for 1897–8 were then announced, as follows: *President*, Justin Winsor; *Secretary*, Melvil Dewey; *Treasurer*, Gardner M. Jones; *Recorder*, Helen E. Haines; *Vice-presidents:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Hannah P. James, F. M. Crunden; *A. L. A. Council:* R. R. Bowker, C. A. Cutter, W. I. Fletcher, W. E. Foster. *Trustee of endowment fund:* G. W. Williams.

Adjournment was then taken until Friday morning, Thursday evening being devoted to a trolley ride to Willow Grove Park, where the Damrosch orchestra was enjoyed, and where, it is rumored, even those high and mighty in the A. L. A. succumbed to the fascination of the "chutes," the "biograph," and similar frivolities.

FIFTH DAY.

Friday morning opened with a continuation of the double program of Wednesday. The college and reference section, conducted by Mr. Richardson, of Princeton, was called to order at nine o'clock, when "The survival of the fittest among books" was considered by Mr. Richardson, in a most interesting talk. The qualities, apart from moral fitness, that tend to preserve books were thought to be vitality of idea, and beauty of style, but coincident with these must be material conditions favorable to the preservation of the book as a material object. The "Index prospects and possibilities" of the near future were outlined by Mr. Fletcher in a crisp and informal manner, and the "London international conference on a catalog of scientific literature" was described by Dr. Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution. "Co-operative printing of analytical reference lists" was made the subject of a *viva voce* symposium, participated in by Dr. Billings, G. H. Baker, C. W. Andrews, and Miss Nina E. Browne, all of whom spoke from practical personal experience. "The care of manuscripts" was explained by Herbert Friedenwald, of Philadelphia, and "The care of special collections" was the subject of a most suggestive and interesting paper by Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library. The report of the committee on organization of the College Section, read by Mr. Fletcher, recommended that a committee of three, Messrs. Richardson, Harris, and Foster, be appointed to provide a program for the next conference, and to arrange for the representation of the section at that conference, and stated that the present term for the field covered by the section, *i.e.*, college and reference library work, could not, in their opinion, be improved.

The second session of the elementary section was conducted by Miss Linda A. Eastman. It opened with a paper on "Librarian's aids," by Miss Virginia Dodge, of the Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Public Library, who pointed out the aid that should come to the librarian through trustees, assistants, and associations, as well as through reference books and technical publications. "Library advertising" was presented by Miss Hazeltine in a delightful talk. Bulletins, posters, exhibits, newspaper notes, and lists, and special library "days" on special subjects, as "catalog day," "magazine day," "travel day," were among the methods used and suggested for awakening and maintaining public interest in the library, and the moral of the matter was presented in the mystic maxim, "s, e, a, i, and w," — "stick everlastingly at it and win." An animated advertising discussion followed, in which methods adopted in Cleveland were described by Miss Eastman, and suggestions as to the use of linotype lists were made by Mr. Wright, of St. Joseph, Mo. In response to questions, Miss Eastman gave a most interesting account of the Children's Library League, recently formed at Cleveland,

which promises to successfully solve many of the difficulties met with in library work with children.

"Book selection" was the subject of a paper by Miss Elizabeth P. Andrews, of the New York State Library, and the session was closed by Miss Eastman with a short, earnest presentation of the "aims and personal attitude toward the work" that must animate the librarian or assistant whose work is to be more than a mechanical routine.

The divided forces of the association joined again just before noon in the auditorium, when the final general session of the conference was opened by the report of the committee on the New York Public Library plans. A resolution was offered expressing the hearty approval by the A. L. A. of the methods adopted by those in charge of the plans for that building, both as to general requirements and as to manner of completion; it was accepted by a rising vote. Dr. Billings offered a resolution, which was adopted, by which the association recognized with appreciation the modification of the provisions of the tariff bill, in the senate, in accordance with the recommendations of the A. L. A., and urged that the position thus taken be maintained in the committee on conference on that bill; and a resolution, offered by Mr. Fletcher, expressing the cordial recognition, by the A. L. A., of the work done by Mr. F. A. Crandall in the administration of the office of public documents, was also passed. Mr. Fletcher then presented, on behalf of a committee of the New England state library associations, a tentative form of a circular, urging upon publishers reforms as to publication of title-pages and indexes, etc., and requested that the matter be continued in the hands of an A. L. A. committee, which should be given power to act. The suggestion was adopted. Three resolutions presented by Mr. Dewey were adopted, as follows: (1) pledging the hearty support of the A. L. A. to the library department of the N. E. A., and appointing as official delegates to the coming conference of the latter body W. H. Brett, Mrs. Theresa West Elmendorf, and W. R. Eastman, with any other members able to attend; (2) extending the thanks of the association to the authorities of Atlanta, and regretting that acceptance of their invitation must be deferred another year; and (3) amending the constitution by increasing the number of councillors at large from 20 to 25, and giving place on the council, in addition, to one or more representatives from every state or local library association.

The subject of "The development of the subscription into the free library" was then briefly discussed by E. S. Willcox, of Peoria, F. M. Crunden, and J. N. Larned, but lack of time made it impossible to consider the topic as fully as its importance deserved, while the contribution to this symposium received from Mr. Beer, of the Fisk Free and Public Library, of New Orleans, was in his absence passed over. The last paper on the program was "The literature of libraries," by F. J. Teggart, of Leland Stanford University, and this also, in the author's absence, was read by title only. A discussion of work with children, based upon the papers read at Thursday's last session, followed, led by Mr. Fairchild, in which the wisdom of separating children wholly from adults by means of distinct buildings, was debated. The report of the committee on resolutions, extending the hearty thanks of the association to the many friends whose hospitality had been so cordially given, was then adopted by a rising vote, and the business of the conference was declared at an end, a recess being taken until July 1, when final adjournment was had.

Promptly with the conclusion of business came the scattering of the clans. Some of the European party and others homeward bound departed early in the afternoon; the majority left by the 7:43 train for Boston, and by Friday evening but a few score remained of the 300 and more whose names had been listed in the register within the four days past. Friday afternoon was given up by most of those remaining to a visit to the Masonic temple, a tour through the J. B. Lippincott establishment, and an inspection of the poster exhibit held at Strawbridge & Clothier's. The sightseeing tours still continued during Saturday morning, and even then it was with regret for the many places left unvisited that the American post-conference party assembled at noon on Saturday in the Broad street station, bound for the Delaware Water Gap.

DELAWARE WATER GAP.

The American post-conference plays so small a part in the record of this international conference year that comment upon it here is hardly needed, yet a word as to its pleasures may not be out of place. The trip was taken by 24 persons, and for most of them it lasted for only four days, but those days were full of unalloyed enjoyment, and the pure air, quiet and beauty of the Water Gap brought rest and refreshment to minds and bodies tired out by the rush and excitement of conference week. The Kittatinny House was the pleasantest of headquarters, and the beautiful drives through a beautiful country, the mountain scrambles, and the steamboat trips about the river will be long remembered by those who enjoyed them as the delightful finish of a most delightful conference. H. E. H.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

"CONNECTICUT public library document no. 2, 1897," which is the report of the Connecticut Public Library Committee for 1895 and 1896, has recently been issued. It is an excellent piece of work, detailed and comprehensive in its summary of work accomplished in developing libraries in the state, and useful to small libraries generally in the practical suggestions and the several lists of books recommended. An interesting feature is a map of the state, indicating by colors towns possessing free public libraries organized under the law of 1893 and free public libraries otherwise organized. The library statistics show, briefly, that 42 towns or

municipalities have free libraries owned and controlled by the town; 24 towns have free libraries unconnected with the town; 7 towns have free libraries for which the town appropriates money but is not represented in the management; and 95 towns have no free public library. Of these 95, however, 45 have subscription libraries of some sort, leaving 50 towns without libraries. Since the passage of the library law in 1893, 38 libraries have been established, the state has paid $5628.90 for books, and about 6000 books have been sent to these libraries. The entire experience of the state committee shows with yearly increasing emphasis the importance of the work, the need and appreciation of libraries that is found in almost all communities, and the influence that the libraries can exert as centres of intellectual life for the people.

The usual tabulated statistical "report of libraries" for 1895–'96 covers pages 16–43 of the report, and is followed by hints for the conduct of school libraries and capital practical "Suggestions for the smallest libraries," by Miss Hewins, who appends excellent classed lists of the books of 1895 and 1896 that the committee recommend for town and village libraries, and of about 300 books suggested "for the beginnings of libraries." The department of "Histories of libraries" follows, arranged alphabetically by towns and illustrated by many excellent views of exteriors and interiors. Immediately after this department is a series of five suggestive designs for library buildings furnished by Hartwell, Richardson & Driver, of Boston, and varying in cost from $3600 in wood to $26,000 in stone, which should be of general interest and usefulness. Detailed tabulated statistics of college libraries, district libraries, high school libraries, and Y. M. C. A. libraries, a list of library directors, and a good index complete a report that deserves high praise for its thoroughness, practicality, and usefulness.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

BULLETIN no. 2 of the New Hampshire Library Commission, dated Dec. 31, 1896, has recently been published. It is chiefly devoted to a classed list of books suggested for the consideration of library trustees, giving date, publisher, and list price, and designating books that are written by New Hampshire authors, books of special interest to young people, and children's books. The notes appended to the list give suggestions as to special purchases, and point out desirable methods of library administration. New Hampshire libraries possessing special features are also listed under illustrative headings, such as "agencies maintained," "have a card catalog," "systematic school-work," "no age limit to children," "magazines circulated," etc. There is no name listed under the heading "access to shelves." The rest of the report is given up to Miss Stearn's paper on "Advertising a library," reprinted from the conference number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison, Wis.

THE Wisconsin Free Library Commission held a meeting at Madison during the week ending June 12, at which it was decided to hold several meetings during the fall and winter in different parts of the state. At these meetings the relation of the library to schools and plans for library work will be discussed.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*ARMOUR INSTITUTE LIBRARY CLASS.*

THE graduation exercises of the Armour Institute library class took place June 17, with those of the other departments. The commencement address was delivered by President Daniel C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University.

All of the graduates have been successful in securing library positions. 17 completed the first year course, the majority of whom expect to continue their studies at the state library school at the University of Illinois.

MARGARET MANN.

*DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE graduating exercises of the institute were held on June 14 in the auditorium. 13 students of the library school received certificates: May Bailey, Mary E. Bechtel, Julia W. Blandy, Florence M. Eilbeck, Aida T. Evans, Laura E. Hanson, Lucia T. Henderson, Lucy W. Mitchell, Harriet A. Mumford, Susan W. Randall, Anna T. Thurston, Mary Askell Upton, Lydia Weston.

Miss Lydia Weston, of the class of '97, has accepted a position as librarian of the Free Library in Burlington, N. J.

Miss Lucy W. Mitchell, of the class of '97, has gone to the Osterhout Library, Wilkesbarre, as assistant.

Miss May Z. Cruice, of the class of '96, has been engaged to re-arrange the library of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.

Miss Alice S. Griswold, of the class of '96, has been appointed on the cataloging staff of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Applications for admission to the school for the coming year have been more numerous than ever before.

*PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE school closed June 18, the institute commencement day. The graduates were:

*Second year class:* Laura M. Carleton, Mildred A. Collar, Edith M. Pomeroy.

*First year class:* Mary C. Brooks, Frederick C. Bursch, Grace A. Child, Jeanette W. Dailey, Annie Dennis, Minnie A. Dill, Joel N. Eno, Irene A. Hackett, Frances B. Hawley, Mrs. Edith Humphrey, Mary Merwin Melcher,

Flora R. Petrie, Helen L. Plummer, Alma M. Russell, Enid M. Saunders, Mary V. Titus, Edith Tobitt, Charlotte E. Wallace, Lilian Walton, Margaret D. Whitney, Charles E. Wright, Margaret E. Zimmerman.

The class of 1897 has the distinction of being the first class to graduate every member who entered.

Several of the class have already obtained positions. Among them, Miss Child goes to the Hartford Public Library for the summer, Miss Dennis succeeds Miss Minna L. Stillman at the Y. W. C. A. Library, New York; Miss Dill returns to the Decatur Public Library as cataloger; Miss Hackett is classifying and cataloging the Reform Club Library; Mrs. Humphrey, Miss Melcher, Miss Titus and Miss Walton are engaged for the summer as catalogers at the Society Library, New York; Miss Helen Plummer is engaged as summer substitute at the Astral Branch of the Pratt Institute Free Library; Miss Tobitt has been added to the staff of Pratt Institute Library. Miss Pomeroy has charge of the order work of that library, and Miss Collar is to be first cataloger for the ensuing year.

## Reviews.

CONTRIBUTIONS towards a bibliography of the higher education of women; compiled by a committee of the Association of Collegiate Alumnæ. Boston, The Trustees of the Public Library, 1897. 7 + 42 p. (Bibliographies of special subjects, no. 8.) O.

This pioneer bibliography of a subject of much importance in the evolution of modern society was compiled under the editorial supervision of Miss Mary Harris Rollins, of the Boston Public Library, and is divided into eight general classes: (1) General and historical; (2) Higher education in relation to health (including physical education and the question of the mental inferiority of women); (3) Coeducation; (4) Professional and scientific education—(a) Law, (b) Medicine, (c) The ministry, (d) Science; (5) Post-graduate study; (6) Occupations and opportunities for college-bred women; (7) Colleges and universities wholly or partly open to women; (8) Societies for the education or advancement of women. Most of the works in this bibliography, which is annotated in part, are found in the Boston Public Library and the shelf numbers are attached, or the initials P. R., indicating that the bound volumes of the magazine cited are in the periodical room of that library. An index of authors is added.

A bibliography of the higher education of women has been a "long-felt want," and the sense of relief, and of gratitude, in the possession of such a useful compilation, makes one hesitate to criticise it. The word "contributions" in the title is, no doubt, due to the editor, who says, in a personal note, that she believes the function of this list is "quite as much to find out what we have failed to discover as to show what we have gathered." That the committee has "failed to discover" important works is true, though space will permit the naming of only a few. No doubt some of these omissions are due to the phrase "higher education," which is relative, indefinite, and unsatisfactory. The "higher education" of women a century ago was radically different from what we know it to-day, and works which one person might include in such a list another would rule out, as dealing more or less with elementary or secondary education. From the very beginning of the general education of women (then always *female education*), when girls were taught only to read, every advance has been resisted, and every advance was "higher education."

But to our consideration of the bibliography. On page 2, Thomas Broadhurst is credited with an article on "Female education" (*Edinburgh Review*, 15 : 299) and on page 10, Sydney Smith is credited with an article on the same subject (*Edinburgh Review*, 15 : 273), with the remark that it is a review of Thomas Broadhead's "Advice to young ladies on the improvement of the mind." Here is confusion, because both entries refer to the same article, and both contain errors. There is no article on any subject on page 273, and Broadhead should be Broadhurst. The entry on page 2 of the bibliography is, therefore, not only misleading, but out of place. The article referred to is the famous one of Sydney Smith, which is the most splendid argument for the education of women that has yet been written, and it is a review only in name. The single reference to Broadhurst's work in the essay is contained in the nine lines of the first paragraph, where Smith refers to him as "a very good sort of a man, who has not written a very bad book on a very important subject."

John Amos Comenius, Mary Astell, the Marquise de Maintenon, Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin, Frances Mary Buss, and others, who as writers and educators contributed much to the cause of the advancement of the education of women, find no place in this bibliography. Comenius and Miss Buss are mentioned in titles, it is true, but it seems unfortunate that the arrangement of the bibliography does not show something of the character of their work; that is to say, it would be an advantage to have subject entries, in addition to author, in cases like Comenius, Willard, Buss, etc.

Almira Phelps (p. 8) uses on the title pages of several of her works the name Mrs. Lincoln Phelps. She was a Miss Hart, sister of Emma Willard. Mrs. Phelps in "The educator; or, hours with my pupils," N. Y., 1876 (omitted in the bibliography), gives a sketch of her connection with the "higher education" of women—at Troy Female Seminary; Westchester, Pa.; Rahway, N. J.; and the Patapsco Institute, Maryland.

The work of Hannah More, that had most influence in advancing the cause of woman's education, is strangely omitted in this bibliography. "Cœlebs in search of a wife" is in form a novel,

but in fact an argument for the "higher education" of women. It was immensely popular in its day, passing through many editions both in England and America. It contains all the arguments advanced in her "Strictures on the modern system of female education" and in "Hints for forming the character of a princess" (which latter is not mentioned in the bibliography), and often whole paragraphs have been transferred bodily from these works into the mouths of the characters in the novel.

The list of "Colleges and universities wholly or partly open to women" is hard to understand. It may be that Boston is too far removed to have received any of the great mass of literature relating to the many institutions of this kind. It is to be hoped that a revised edition of this important and valuable bibliographical contribution will be published at no distant day. S: H. R.

## Library Economy and History.

### LOCAL.

*Bourne, Mass. Jonathan Bourne Memorial L.* The Jonathan Bourne Memorial Library was dedicated on June 17 with largely-attended exercises, when its presentation to the town was made by Miss Emily Bourne, daughter of the man to whom it is a memorial. The building, which is beautifully located on the land bordering the Monument river, cost $17,000, and it will be used as a public library and for the offices of the selectmen of the town. It is constructed of buff brick, with foundation of granite and a slate roof. The interior finish is chiefly of antique oak, with floors of the same wood. The ceilings are decorated with heavy oak panels, and the walls are of unfinished buff brick. The memorial window, placed in the west end of the reading-room, was made in London, and cost $1200. The bookcases are of antique oak, as are the tables and chairs in the book and reading rooms and selectmen's offices. In the basement of the building is located the vault in which will be kept the town records and all other documents of value. The building will be heated by furnace. The floors in the entrance and in the hall are tiled.

*Bowdoin Coll. L., Brunswick, Me.* (Rpt., 1896–7.) Added 2090; total 60,259. Issued 8447, "a marked increase over that of last year. Only one student failed to use the library in this way, while rarely a week passes without books being sent to borrowers in different parts of the state. Many serviceable volumes are thus placed in the hands of those who could not otherwise obtain them, while the cost of transportation, which is met by the borrower, prevents alike trivial and excessive use of this privilege."

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) L.* (39th rpt., 1896.) Added 4168, of which 2860 were bought at a cost of $4165.20; total 128,376. Issued, home use 95,751. Membership 2688. Receipts $21,443.65; expenses $21,244.74.

The increasing use of the library by clubs existing in suburban parts of Brooklyn is described, and has been already noted in the L. J. (Jan., p. 95). Three cases of selected clippings have been added to the collection of newspaper clippings, one relating to biography, one to local (New York City) history, and one to genealogy and family history.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L.* (*In* catalog of the institute, 1897–98, p. 110–118.) "There are at present (May 1, 1897) about 63,532 v. upon the shelves (including two branch libraries). These include the nucleus of a collection of French and German books, now numbering about 2500 of each, which are meeting an appreciative demand."

There were about 58,000 visits to the reading-room during the year; the reference-rooms were visited by 35,128 persons, and 11,798 v. were consulted in addition to the bound periodicals and 13,600 v. accessible for reference use, as to which no record of use is kept.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* A meeting of the directors of the association was held on June 23 in the mayor's office. By a recent act of the legislature the number of directors was increased from 13 to 21, and the first business transacted was the appointment of nine new directors and the designation of their terms. The original directors were: David A. Boody, president; R. Ross Appleton, secretary; Herbert F. Gunnison, treasurer; Charles A. Schieren, Charles M. Pratt, Daniel W. McWilliams, Colonel Willis L. Ogden, John D. Keiley, Charles N. Chadwick. These were added to by the appointment of Alfred T. White, Joseph E. Hinds, Judge W. W. Goodrich, George H. Southard, to serve for one year; Mrs. O. H. Craigie, Mrs. I. H. Carey, Mrs. Alvah G. Brown, Walter B. Atterbury, two years; and Mrs. B. F. Stephens, Mrs. James A. Sperry, Mrs. Frederick B. Pratt, and Judge E. C. Brennan, three years.

In addition to those named, the mayor, the president of the board of aldermen, the director of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and the president of the board of education are members of the directory.

President Boody, Treasurer Gunnison, and John D. Keiley were chosen a committee to appear before the board of estimate to obtain the $10,000 appropriated for this year's use by the legislature, and also to see that the $40,000 provided for by the act of incorporation is included in the budget for 1898. A further resolution was adopted authorizing this committee to urge upon the mayor, controller and city clerk the necessity of issuing the $600,000 in bonds provided for by the law of 1892 to carry out the intention of the act before the consolidation with New York is perfected.

At a meeting of the association held June 29 a resolution was passed recommending that the library board erect in one of the parks of the city a building to be used as a reading-room and circulating library, and that the association aid in the undertaking.

*Brunswick (Me.) P. L. A.* (Rpt.) Added 597; total "about 6800." Issued 23,961 (fict.

14,833), a gain of 1798 over the previous year. New registration 216; total registration 1491.

"We believe that our library is more used, relatively, than any other in the state." A department for teachers has just been planned, and a special "teachers' shelf" established.

*Buffalo* (*N. Y.*) *P. L.* The announcement is made that the library will be opened to the public under its new conditions as a free library on Sept. 1. A competitive examination for assistants in the library was held on June 19, in which 141 applicants participated.

*Chicago* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* The last book purchase of the library board included 100 v. of Hungarian books, the first to be bought by the library. They were added on receipt of a petition from Hungarian citizens, who asked that their literature might be represented in the library.

*Cincinnati* (*O.*) *Hospital L.* (36th rpt.) Added 964; total 10,964. There were 3742 v. and 2642 periodicals consulted, and 1360 visitors were registered.

*Columbia Univ. L., New York City.* The library was closed to all readers on June 14, until fall, when it will re-open at the new site of the university on Morningside Heights. In view of the removal of the library to the new building, a complete inventory of all books is being made.

*Danville* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending May 1, '97.) Added 189; total 8646. Issued 30,706 (fict. 13,936.) Total registration 6002.

*Dixon* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 1, '97.) Added 1300; total 2951. Issued 24,855; (fict. 14,267). Total registration 1736.

*Erie* (*Pa.*) *P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on June 7. There were no formal ceremonies.

*Gloversville* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* (17th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, '97.) Added 1367; total 15,122. Issued, home use 64,470; reading-room use 5560. Visitors to reading-room 26,705. New registration 508.

Appended to the report is a list of books added since January, 1896.

*Iowa State L., Des Moines.* Mr. A. J. Small, of the state library, has prepared an interesting map of Iowa, designed to illustrate the operations of the state travelling libraries, so as to indicate at a glance the extent of their use. There are three differently colored indications — first, to show where the various libraries are; second, where they have been; and third, where applications have been made for them. 50 libraries have recently been located, and the indicators are very evenly distributed over the state. As the work progresses this map will be of utility in indicating the success of the missionary work which these libraries are designed to accomplish for public libraries in Iowa, and which has been so successful in other states.

*Iowa State Univ. L., Iowa City.* The library building of the Iowa State University was struck by lightning on June 18 and burned. It was a two-story brick structure with the library on the second floor, and the physical laboratory on the first floor. The loss is $100,000. Of this, $50,000 was in books, $17,000 in apparatus belonging to the physical laboratory, and $33,000 on the building. The library was the best in the state. Many of the books are out of print and cannot be replaced. The Talbot collection of 4500 volumes was about two-thirds destroyed. This collection was exceedingly valuable, many books dating from the beginning of the sixteenth century. In all about 25,000 v. were destroyed.

A special session of the executive committee of the regents was held on June 22 to consider plans for the future, and a circular letter was sent to all assemblymen calling their attention to the loss and urging the necessity of prompt provision of a new building. The legislature is asked to levy a special university tax of one-tenth of a mill for this purpose. The work of listing and collecting all books that were not destroyed was at once begun by Librarian Rich and his assistants.

*Lawrence* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* (25th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '96.) Added 1388; total 45,312. Issued, home use 119,417 (fict. 43.8%; juv. 32.6%); lib. use 13,673. New registration 923; total registration 1040. Receipts and expenses $11,691.10.

The librarian repeats his former suggestions that a branch library and delivery station be established and that the two-book system be adopted.

*Lead, S. D.* Work has begun on the new library building erected by Mrs. Phœbe Hearst, who will establish in it the Hearst Free Library and Reading-room. The building will be 100 x 33, built of brick and stone, with two stories and a basement. The first floor has been rented by the government for use as a post-office, the library will occupy the second floor, and the basement is to be devoted to business purposes.

*Leland Stanford Jr. Univ., Cal.* A course in bibliography has been introduced into the university curriculum, beginning with the fall term. It will be conducted by F. J. Teggart, assistant librarian of the university library, and its aim will be "to give practical aid to students in the preparation of bibliographies. Bibliographical methods, the bibliographies of special subjects, and the principal books of reference will be discussed, and individual work carried out under direction in the university library."

*Mankato* (*Minn.*) *P. L.* (3d rpt.—year ending March 1, '97.) Added 1115; total 3903 (in circulating dept. 2870.) Issued, home use 33,141. Receipts $2513.84.

The circulation shows an increase of 15 per cent. over the last year, and, according to the trustees, "a larger number of issues, compared

with the number of books, than can be shown by any public library in the United States, to whose records we have access."

*Mendota, Ill. Graves P. L.* Added 579; total 4395. Issued 17,313 (fict. 10,905; juv. 4365.)

*New Britain (Ct.) Institute L.* (43d rpt., 1896.) Added 1874. Issued, home use 35,931. Receipts $9348.79; expenses $9222.02.

The circulation shows a decrease of three per cent. in fiction. "The plan of 'open shelves' has been adopted for the reference library, the periodicals, and a portion of the circulating library, and has worked satisfactorily."

*New Jersey State L.* (Rpt. — year ending Oct. 31, '96.) Added 1849; total 47,114. Visitors registered, 2580. The registration figures, however, do not at all record the real use of the library, which is in general and constant use by workers in different fields. "The attendance of pupils of the state and public schools has so much increased during the year that we have been compelled to double the number of tables and chairs for their accommodation." The experiment of opening the library to school children has proved on the whole satisfactory. "It is a curious fact that the female pupils give us no trouble, but work zealously and industriously, as if gratified with advantages presented by the free use of library books and stationery."

*New York, Charity Organization Society.* The society is now in possession of a small but well-chosen library on sociologic subjects, selected with the assistance of the professors of sociology in two of the leading universities. This it is hoped may be the foundation of a first-class working library on sociology; and a statement of what is desired, with a request for funds to purchase needed books, has been recently issued by the chairman of the committee on library, Rev. S. M. Jackson, who has been active in the work of organizing the present collection.

*New York, East Side House, Webster F. L.* It has been decided to add to the library a considerable collection of books in the Bohemian language, on account of the large numbers of Bohemian children who visit the institution; this, it is said, will be the only free circulating Bohemian library in New York City. A new rule recently established is that from 2 until 3:30 p.m. the library may be used by adults only, no children being admitted. This, it is thought, will make the work of the attendants less difficult and reduce crowding.

*New York F. C. L.* The new Yorkville branch of the library has broken the record in its development of a large circulation. After two weeks operation, with 2000 books on its shelves, its circulation equalled that of some of the long-established branches that have from 15,000 to 25,000 v. The causes are attributed, first, to the location of the library on a crowded thoroughfare, seen by all passers and easily accessible; second, to the free access system adopted throughout; and third, to the use of the two-book method.

*New York. Washington Heights F. L.* (29th rpt. – year ending May 1, '97.) Added 1356; total 11,151. Issued, home use 41,737; ref. use 1076. Visitors to reading-room 17,044. Receipts $3157.80; expenses $3061.49.

*Northwestern Univ. L., Evanston, Ill.* (Rpt., 1896–97. *In* President's annual rpt., p. 51.) Added 1829; total 33,144. Issued, home use 4389; lib. use 4811 (general ref. use is unrecorded).

Comparison with statistics of the previous year shows "an appreciable increase in the recorded reading-room use of books. Of the books loaned to students to be read at home, 30 per cent. were in the department of literature and 11 per cent. in that of history; 10 per cent. only of the circulation was fiction. The character of the circulation in this library is thus shown to be in sharp contrast with that in the majority of public libraries."

"The John Crerar Library, of Chicago, has conferred a special favor on this library in the gift of a copy of its printed author card catalog. The additions will be furnished in monthly installments. As the Crerar Library is a reference library devoted to scientific subjects, the advantage to our students and professors of being able to determine, without a trip to Chicago, whether certain books can be found there, is very great. The catalog is also a valuable bibliographical aid. It will be arranged where it can be freely consulted."

*Paterson (N. J.) F. P. L.* (12th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) Added 2006; total 26,875. Issued, home use 111,236 (fict. 76.1 %); issued on teachers' cards 917; lib. use 1401; no record of general ref. use is kept. New registration 3271; total registration 7622. Receipts $16,788.54; expenses $14,413.58.

"Not only have more books been loaned during the last year than in any other in the history of the library, but also the proportion of fiction is the smallest — 76.1 per cent. This is a decrease of three per cent. from 1895.

"One of the most important things accomplished this year is the beginning of the publication of a monthly bulletin, issued in the form of an attractive and handy little pamphlet. It has proved its usefulness and popularity beyond question, and is worth much more than it costs, a large part of the expense of printing being paid by advertisements." The need of a new building is suggested and the establishment of at least two delivery stations is specifically recommended.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L.* (1st rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) The library was opened to the public on Nov. 11, 1895, and though the present report covers nominally the first statistical year of work, it includes actually the 14 and two-thirds months from the date of opening to Jan. 31, 1897. Of the 26,859 v. in the library, 10,558 are in the circulating department. 138,591 v. were issued for home

use, of which 66.28 % were fiction, adult, and juvenile. This means that the entire stock in this department was circulated more than 16 times in 14 and two-thirds months, while the additional fact that there are 9946 registered borrowers, or about one for every volume, shows that the circulation has so far been limited solely by the number of books available for that purpose. A steady growth in the reference department is reported, and Mr. Anderson gives space to several interesting letters from scientific men on the importance and necessity of making a reference specialty of books and periodicals relating to the natural and technical sciences. The estimated reference use is given at 56,565, and the total number of visitors to the four reading-rooms as 132,232.

The children's department, opened Feb. 1, 1896, was used by 28,823 children during the first year of its existence. "On busy afternoons and evenings the room has frequently been so crowded that it was necessary to seat dozens of boys on the floor and on benches in the delivery lobby adjoining. If this can be done in inadequate quarters and with no supervision, what might be accomplished in suitable quarters with competent assistants in charge!"

*Portland* (*Me.*) *P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending March 31, '97.) Added 1747; total 43,008. Issued, home use 88,036, a gain of 1767 over the previous year; lib. use 41,849; visitors to ref. room 21,431. No record of reading-room use is kept. Receipts $31,423.98; expenses $25,257.50.

About 10,000 cards have been added to the two catalogs, bringing each up to date. Monthly bulletins have been posted in the library, and lists of the new books have each month been printed in two or more of the local papers. "It is recommended that as soon as practicable the work of rearranging the fiction by authors and making a fiction list be undertaken. As a preparatory step it would be well to weed out such novels as have outlasted their usefulness.

"An 'unknown friend' has recently sent to us free from Kansas City two books, which should perhaps be accounted as gifts, although many years ago they were the property of the Portland Institute and Public Library. They are Soule's 'Synonymes,' and the 'Carmina Selecta' of Horace, published in Brussels in 1779. The stamp and shelf numbers on the books show that they were borrowed some 20 years ago. They were returned by express (prepaid) without explanation or thanks."

*St. Joseph* (*Mo.*) *F. P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending April 31, '97.) Added 1960; total 14,839. Issued, home use 120,853 (fict. 80 %); lib. use, exclusive of general ref. use, 992. New registration 2276; total cards in use 4347; expenses $8238.12.

"The imperative demand for an increase in the funds of the library led the board of directors to consider the advisability of again asking the voters of the city to authorize the setting apart for library purposes of an increased percentage of the city taxes, but in view of the condition of the city finances it was thought best to postpone this request until a more favorable time." A request for an increased appropriation has, however, been made.

A comparison of the total no. of v. in the library with the figures of circulation is interesting evidence of the amount of work done with limited equipment, and shows that each volume in the circulating department was issued on an average 11 times — a turnover that indicates the necessity of increased book purchases. In the work with the schools it is proposed to begin in the fall the issue of special cards to teachers, on which extra books may be had for school use. A new finding list was issued last July, and since then three bulletins, containing 300 titles each, have been published.

*Salt Lake City, Utah.* On June 34 the city council voted unanimously to recommend the levy of a tax of one-third of a mill for the establishment of a free public library.

*South Norwalk* (*Ct.*) *P. L.* (7th rpt.) Added 297; total 3378. Issued 20,367; no. visitors 43,709. Cards in use 1051. Expenses $1316.34.

During the year several interesting exhibitions have been held at the library, among them art photographs from the Soule Photograph Co., specimens illustrating oyster cultture and drawings loaned by the *Youth's Companion.*

*Springfield* (*O.*) [*Warder*] *P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending May 1, '97.) Added 580; total 17,117. Issued 86,815 (fict. and juv. fict. 71.84 %); new registration 2754; total registration 5290. Receipts $6510.26; expenses $5129.95.

Miss Burrowes, who succeeded the late Robert C. Woodward, as librarian, in August, 1896, emphasizes as the chief needs of the library the purchase of more current books and the issue of a new catalog. The trustees urge a slight increase in the library appropriation.

*Springfield* (*Mass.*) *City L.* (36th rpt. — year ending May 4, '97.) Added 3679; total 97,510. Issued, home use 147,426 (fict. and juv., 110,888); ref. use 28,720 v. issued to 11,650 persons. Visitors to reading-room 59,176; magazines and reviews given out 18,334.

The changes of arrangement, by which the main hall of the library is left free for reference use, have proved wholly successful, and have much aided in the work of the library. The report gives an interesting summary of the work done with the schools.

*Towanda* (*Pa.*) *P. L.* The cornerstone of the new library building given to Towanda by Frank R. Welles, was laid on June 18; the building will cost $10,000.

*Waltham* (*Mass.*) *P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) Added 702; total 24,256. Issued 65,247 (fict. 53 %; juv. 26 %.) New registration 801.

The printed catalog of accessions from 1889 to 1894 has been completed. The issue of two books on a card was begun on Jan. 1.

*Washington, D. C. Gov. Printing Office.* On June 7 Mr. Hale introduced in the senate a bill providing for a library for the Government Printing Office. The books are to be selected by a committee and their use exclusively confined to employees of the office and its branches. The library is to be located in the main building, and $5000 is appropriated for the purposes of a library to be immediately available.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* The motion for a new trial made in the case of Philip McElhone, convicted on April 30 of stealing valuable historical documents from the Congressional Library, was withdrawn on May 24, and the prisoner was sentenced to pay a fine of $200, which was at once done. The penalty provided for the offence is a fine not exceeding $5000, or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both, and the sentence inflicted was regarded as extremely lenient.

*Winona, Minn.* Plans have been accepted for the fine public library building, to be given to Winona by W. H. Laird, of that city, as already noted in L. J. (March, p. 162). The building, which will be of Bedford stone, is to be Renaissance in style, 84 by 64, with a three-story stack, extending about 30 feet of additional depth. It will be one story high, with a basement eight feet above the ground grade, and will be crowned with a large central dome, about 50 feet in height. The average height of the basement rooms is 11 feet, and of those on the first floor 15, the art gallery to the skylight being 17½ feet, and the central delivery-room under the dome being 30 feet. The book-room is to be three-storied, with metal floors and furnishings. The entire east side of the main floor is occupied by a reading-room, 25 by 60 feet, separated from the delivery and librarian's rooms only by columns, so that all parts of the room are in plain sight of the librarians.

On the west side of the building the chief feature is the art gallery, which is 25 by 28 feet and opens off the delivery-room. This room is lighted altogether from above, so that all the wall space is available for hanging pictures. Directly underneath and connected with the art gallery by a spiral stairway is the cast-room, to be used for the display of sculpture, casts and other works of art. At the front of the west side is a reference-room, and in the rear is a room 9½ by 15 for the use of the library directors, with a vault for keeping records and valuable papers.

In the basement there will be a lecture-room, 25 by 60, boiler-rooms, unpacking-room, etc. There will be also one undesignated apartment which may be used as a meeting-place for literary societies or as a children's library department. The architects are Warren F. Laird and Edgar V. Seeler, of Philadelphia. The work of construction will begin at once, the building contract having already been made with Contractor Henry Behrens, of Winona.

The library of the late William Windom, formerly secretary of the treasury, has been presented to the Winona library by Mrs. Windom.

*FOREIGN.*

*Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls.* (44th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96). Added, lending ls., 4798; total 72,049. Issued, home use 631,632; reading-room use 49,324. New registration 10,082; total card-holders 18,913. Lost and paid for, 78; stolen from reading-room, 5.

Additions to the reference library are not given, but there were 239,147 v. issued in that department during the year, this being an increase — in all classes of literature — of 25,452 over 1895. These issues do not include fiction. There were also 145,527 scientific or literary periodicals consulted. "The tendency of modern reading is towards the magazine, review, and newspapers rather than the book, which necessarily requires a greater amount of time for its perusal than many readers can give. The entire contents of the [reference] library numbers 110,923 v. Of these only 5599 are works of fiction. The principal works of the leading writers of prose fiction must be kept for reference, but a number of novels by popular writers are also purchased in order to induce people to come and spend their time in the library as a place of mental recreation and enjoyment. The Brown reading-room is specially set apart for this purpose, and here newspapers, illustrated and entertaining periodicals of all kinds, and novels may be read. This setting apart of the Picton reading-room as a students' room, and the Brown reading-room for recreative reading, has hitherto worked out in the most satisfactory way. The student or literary man, with several volumes and his note-book before him, requires greater table space and quiet than the man who is reading a novel or magazine only for pastime; hence the success of the Picton reading-room as a place of study, compared with what it would be if it were less special in character."

During the year the Everton branch was established in a handsome building, which was opened in October. In the three months of its existence over 3000 persons had become borrowers. "In all the lending libraries particular attention is given to the provision of books, in all classes of literature, adapted for both girls and boys."

*Oxford, Eng. Bodleian L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 59,379, of which 7035 were purchased. "This is the third largest total yet reached, and the purchases of new books were the highest on record." Among the most notable accessions were the first native Corean books acquired by the library (4 v.), 70 papyrus and vellum Egyptian mss., and 38 v. of note-books in English history from Dr. S. R. Gardiner. There were 736 mss. cataloged and indexed for the summary catalog, making a total of 6031 to the end of 1896; 22,308 catalog slips of books were transcribed for insertion in the catalogs, and about 2820 slips were written for the music catalog, now in preparation.

*Toronto Law Soc. of Upper Canada L.* (Rpt., 1896.) Added 1605; total 30,366. Attendance 3856, a considerable decrease from that of the previous year.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Albion, N. Y.* The executors of the will of the late William G. Swan, who left a bequest of $35,000 for a public library and reading-room for the village of Albion, have decided to purchase the Roswell S. Burrows residence for the purpose. The house is centrally located, and when remodeled and made fire-proof, as stipulated in Mr. Swan's will, will be a desirable library building. The balance of the legacy above the cost of the building was designated for the equipment and maintenance of the institution, and the will provides that for its management an organization is to be incorporated under the name of the Swan Memorial Library Association. It is hoped that before winter the new library may be ready for use. Albion already has two distinct libraries, which are housed together in adjoining rooms in the central school building, and which are under the care of one librarian. The library belonging to the village has 3000 v., and the town library contains about 1500 v. For the latter there is an annual appropriation of $300. Both of these libraries will be removed to the Swan library.

*Boston P. L.* The Browning Society of Boston has given its collection of Browning literature — some 400 v. — to the library to be maintained as a reference collection. A gift of $1000 has also been received from the Papyrus Club to be devoted to a memorial collection to John Boyle O'Reilly.

*Delavan, Wis.* By the will of the late James Aram, Delavan is to receive $20,000 for a library building to be a memorial to Mr. Aram's daughters.

*Massillon (O.) P. L.* The bequest of $10,000 recently made by George Harsh for a library building in Masillon was supplemented a few weeks later by the gift from Mrs. F. R. and Mrs. A. M. McClymonds, of the fine Nahum Russell homestead, together with an endowment of $20,000, for the maintenance of the library. The organization of the library was promptly considered by the citizens, and a public subscription of $5000 was at once begun, to be devoted to the cost of altering the Russell house for library purposes. The income of the endowment fund will be devoted to book purchases, and the running expenses of the library will be assumed by the city.

*Nicholasville, Ky.* By the provisions of the will of the late Mrs. Sarah Withers, of Bloomington, Ill., the residue of her estate, after the fulfilment of specified bequests, was given to Nicholasville, her native place, for the purpose of founding a library. It was believed that the sum thus bequeathed would not exceed $3000, but as the task of settling up the estate nears its conclusion it is learned that the residue for the Nicholasville library will not be less than $30,000, and will be probably nearly $40,000. Mrs. Withers was the founder of the Withers Library, of Bloomington.

*Washington (D. C.) F. L.* The library recently received from Andrew Carnegie a gift of $1000.

*Yale Univ. L.* The library has received from Robert C. Winthrop, of Boston, a valuable collection of 66 autograph letters and documents relating to early New England history and colonial days; a number are dated prior to 1650, and 22 out of the 66 have never been printed.

## Librarians.

BOLTON-STANWOOD. Miss Ethel Stanwood, daughter of Edward Stanwood, managing editor of the *Youth's Companion*, and Charles Knowles Bolton, librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, were married on June 23, in the Central Church, Boston. Rev. Edward L. Clark, pastor of the church, officiated.

BROWN, Walter L., recently made reference librarian of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library, was on June 29, appointed assistant superintendent of that library.

FAIRCHILD-CUTLER. Miss Mary Salome Cutler, vice-director of the New York State Library School, and Rev. Edwin Milton Fairchild, of Troy, N. Y., were married on Thursday, July 1, at the First Presbyterian Church of Troy.

GREEN, Bernard R., was on June 30 appointed by the President superintendent of the Congressional Library. Mr. Green was the chief assistant of Gen. Casey during his work on the new library building, and since Gen. Casey's death in March, 1896, has had charge of the construction and completion of the building.

HERBERT, Miss Mary C., was on June 29 elected librarian of the Public School Library of Baltimore. Miss Herbert, who is a daughter of the late Gen. James R. Herbert, a distinguished Confederate officer, is the first woman to be elected to this position, the Public School Library having heretofore been considered a political place. Her appointment was largely due to the action of the Baltimore newspapers demanding that a woman be made librarian.

JONES-SANBORN. Kate Emery Sanborn, late librarian of the Manchester (N. H.) City Library, and Gardner Maynard Jones, librarian of the Salem (Mass.) Public Library, were married on Wednesday, June 30, at the residence of the bride's father, E. B. S. Sanborn, Esq., Franklin, N. H. The Rev. George D. Latimer, of Salem, Mass., officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Jones will spend the next two months in England, and will attend the International Library Conference in London, July 13–16.

METCALF, Miss Anna, librarian of the Harris Institute Library, Woonsocket, R. I., who was recently given six months leave of absence for travel abroad, has tendered her resignation, to take effect upon her return from Europe. She has accepted the position of reference librarian at Brown University.

SHEPARD, Frederick J., was, on June 29, appointed reference librarian of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library. He was formerly associate editor of the Buffalo *Courier*.

SPOFFORD, Ainsworth R., for 35 years Librarian of Congress, has retired from the headship of the Congressional Library in its new building, and has been made first assistant librarian. Mr. Spofford's retirement did not come as a surprise, for it has been known for some time past that the great pressure upon him for places on the reorganized library force, and the great mass of accumulated and detail work in connection with the removal to the new building, had been overburdening his time and strength. His connection with the Library of Congress as first assistant librarian will remove these burdens and will permit him to place his store of knowledge concerning the library more fully at the service of the public than ever before.

YOUNG, John Russell, ex-minister to China, was on June 30 appointed by the President as Librarian of Congress, succeeding A. R. Spofford, who was made first assistant librarian. Mr. Young was born near Downington, Pa., in 1841, and has been a journalist for years. When 16 years old he was employed as a copy holder in a printing office in Philadelphia, and soon after became a reporter, and later an editorial writer. He was secretary to John W. Forney while the latter was secretary of the U. S. Senate, and at the beginning of the Civil War joined the Army of the Potomac as war correspondent. In 1865 he came to New York and became associated with the New York *Tribune*, of which he was managing editor in 1866. Three years later he started a daily newspaper in New York, called the *Standard*, which did not prove a success, and in 1872 he was managing editor of the Philadelphia *Press*. He was also an editorial writer and foreign correspondent for the New York *Herald*, and as its representative accompanied General Grant around the world in 1877. He was made minister to China in 1882, and held that post until 1885. Mr. Young, so far as is known, has had no experience in, or general acquaintance with library work.

## Cataloging and Classification.

AGUILAR, F. L., *New York City*. Fiction list. May, 1897. 32 p. O.

Appended to the author list is a five-page list of historical fiction, arranged chronologically under countries.

CARNEGIE L., *Pittsburgh*. Monthly bulletin, v. 2, nos. 4, 5. April, May, 1897. Additions to the library from March 1, 1897, to May 1, 1897. p. 115–166.

With this double number the plan of the bulletin is changed, the author and title list being discontinued and a separate list of fiction being given at the end of the other class divisions.

CINCINNATI (*O.*) P. L. Quarterly bulletin, January–March, 1897. 16 p. Q.

The FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin*, in its May issue, has a short reference list on "Nature study."

The LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for May is wholly given up to reference list no. 6, on Architecture. The annotations are taken chiefly from Sturges and Krehbiel's "Bibliography of fine art," recently issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Section. The list covers 28 pages. In the June number the reference list relates to Astronomy.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for June contains reference list no. 24 on "State and municipal ownership."

NEW ROCHELLE (*N. Y.*) P. L. General catalogue; prepared by Augusta H. Leypoldt. New Rochelle, 1897. 6+92 p. O.

A title-a-line author and title list, with subject references, followed by a classified subject list. Lists all books up to May, 1897.

The NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for June contains a list of "Periodicals relating to chemistry and physics in the New York Public Library and Columbia University Library."

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* has in its June number no. 5 of the descriptive reading lists in English history, covering the Stuart period.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains reference list, no. 45, on "William Bradford and the Plymouth colony," and special catalog, no. 15, on Education, with a supplementary list on Henry Barnard. In the June number the reference list is given to a "Cabot bibliography," by George Parker Winship, and the special catalog is a supplementary list of trade catalogs.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for June devotes its special reading lists to Bunker Hill, The post-office, Cycling, and Robert Louis Stevenson.

U. S. N. Y. Extension bulletin, no. 18, March, 1897. Public libraries, no. 5: a library of 500 books and 35 periodicals, selected in 1897 for the State Commission in Lunacy, for use in the New York state hospitals. Albany, 1897. 26 p. O. 5 c.

A classed list, giving for each title — except in biography and fiction — the D. C. class number and the Cutter book number. The publisher and price of each book listed is given.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for June has a special reading list on Birds.

WITHERS, P. L., *Bloomington, Ill.* Bulletin no. 4: additions from August, 1896, to June, 1897. 16 p. O.

*FULL NAMES.*

Henderson, Ernest Flagg, *not* Flogg, as given in L. J., April, p. 219.

Brookings, Walter du Bois, *joint author*, (Briefs for debate);

Camp, David Nelson (History of New Britain). W: J. J.

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Boyce, C: W: (Brief history of the 28th regiment, New York state volunteers);

Cramer, Michael J: (Ulysses S. Grant: conversations and unpublished letters);

Hall, H: Davis (The battle of Bennington: an address before the Vermont Historical Society);

Reed, E: Armstrong (Primitive Buddhism);

Stormont, Gilbert Riley (History of the 58th regiment of Indiana volunteer infantry).

## Bibliography.

ASTRONOMY. Bibliographia universalis, publication co-operative de l'Office International de Bibliographie. Bibliographia Astronomica [016.52]: repertoire periodique des travaux d'astronomie, de meteorologie, de geodesie, et de physique du globe; elaboré conformément a la classification decimale par la Societé Belge d'Astronomie. Janvier, Fevrier. Bruxelles, Office International de Bibliographie, 1897. 16 p. D. Annual subs., $1.

This is the first part of the bibliography of current astronomical literature undertaken under the auspices of the Office International de Bibliographie. It is a classed list, printed on one side of the page. for cutting and pasting in catalogs, and records chiefly articles in periodicals, transactions, etc. The titles are also furnished printed on cards for immediate use in card catalogs. The decimal number is affixed to each entry.

CYPRIAN. Benson, E: White. Cyprian: his life, his times, his work. N. Y., Appleton, 1897. 37+636 p. 8°, $7.

Contains a 5-page list of authorities.

MARINE-BIBLIOGRAPHIE, Internationale. Verzeichniss neuer erscheinungen aller länder auf dem gebiete der schiffsbaukunst, des schiffs-maschinenbau-, artillerie- und torpedowesens, allgemeine marine-litteratur, nautik, schiffs-hygiene, seerecht, etc. Mit anhang: diverse technische publikationen, antiquariat. Jahrgang 1: Dezember 1896 – November 1897. [5 Nrn.] Berlin, W. H. Kühl, 1891. nos. 1, 2. 18 p. l. 8°, 1.20 m.

MEDICINE. Gould, G: L., *and* Pyle, Walter L. Anomalies and curiosities of medicine. Phila., Saunders, 1897. il. 900 p. 8°.

Contains a bibliography.

MILK. Irving, H: H. Milk and its products: a treatise upon the nature and qualities of dairy milk and the manufacture of butter and cheese. N. Y., Macmillan, 1897. 13+280 p. 16°.

Pages 259–267 contains a list of references, "taken wholly from the literature of American agricultural investigations."

MORRIS, William. Vallance, Aymer. The art of William Morris. Lond., Bell, 1897.

Contains the first complete bibliography of William Morris yet made, completed by Temple Scott, compiler of the annual record of "Book-sales." It is divided to cover original poems, romances, art, socialistic meetings, translations, contributions to periodical magazines, articles on William Morris, reviews and criticisms upon Morris's writings, and publications of the Kelmscott Press.

ORTHOPTERA. Scudder, S: Hubbard. Guide to the genera and classification of the North American orthoptera found north of Mexico. Cambridge, E: W. Wheeler, 1897. 90 p. D. $1.

Full "bibliographical notes" (16 p.) are given on each of the seven families of orthoptera described, and these are followed by an author list of the literature referred to in the notes (5 p.).

PERIODIC SYSTEM of the elements. Venable, F. P. The development of the periodic law. Easton, Pa., Chemical Publishing Co., 1896. 8+321 p., $2.50.

Contains an index of the literature relating to the periodic law; 267 titles are given, arranged chronologically, from 1815 to 1896, followed by an index of authors.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION. Pierce, J: M. A list of bibliographies of gymnastics and other topics related to physical education; reprinted from the American *Physical Education Review*, v. 2, no. 1, March, 1897. Bost., J. P. Shults, 105 Summer st., 1897. 8 p.

Mr. Pierce is secretary of the Boston Physical Education Society. He lists about 90 bibliographies of the subject, with brief descriptive annotations, and gives references to the libraries in Boston and its vicinity. where the publications referred to may be consulted.

PROTOPLASM. Davenport, C: Benedict. Experimental morphology. Part 1. N. Y., Macmillan, 1897. 14+280 p. 8°, net, $2.60.

This first part treats of the effect of chemical and physical agents upon protoplasm. There is a bibliography at the end of each chapter, the chapter on the action of light on protoplasm, and that on the action of heat, each having seven pages of bibliography. Eight chapters are followed by such bibliographies, which cover never less than two pages.

RESURRECTIONISTS. Bailley, Ja. Blake. An authentic history of body-snatching: the diary of a resurrectionist, 1811–1812. N. Y., New Amsterdam Book Co., 1897. 8°, $1.75.

Contains a four-page bibliography on the history of the resurrection men and the passing of the "anatomy act" by Parliament.

SCIENCE. Deniker, J. Bibliographie des travaux scientifiques (sciences mathématiques, physiques et naturelles) publiés par les sociétés savantes de la France, dressée sous les auspices du ministère de l'instruction publique. Tome i., livraison 2. Paris, Imprimerie Nationale, 1897. 201+400 p. 4°.

SUGAR BEET. U. S. *Dept. of Agriculture.* Library bulletin, June, 1897: References to the literature of the sugar beet, exclusive of works in foreign languages; compiled by Claribel R. Barnett. 10 p. l. O.

Covers bibliographies, general works, periodicals, articles in periodicals, U. S. government publications, and state publications.

UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST. Berger, Daniel. History of the church of the United Brethren in Christ. Dayton, O., United Brethren Pub. House, 1897. 682 p. O. $3.

Appended (p. 651–654) is a four-page bibliography.

UNITED STATES, *History.* Burgess, J: W. The middle period: 1817–58. N. Y., Scribner, 1897. 16+544 p. D. (Am. hist. ser.) $1.75.

Contains a six-page bibliography of "good books recommended to the general reader."

WHITNEY, W: Dwight. The Modern Language Association of America has issued as an extra number of its publications "A report of that session of the first American Congress of Philologists, which was devoted to the memory of the late Professor William Dwight Whitney, of Yale University." (Boston: For the Congress, Ginn & Co., 1897.) The volume contains a chronological bibliography of the writings of Professor Whitney, from 1844 to 1894, including 360 titles. There is also a list of 20 titles of publications (biographical, etc.), concerning Professor Whitney, and a list of three books concerning his family and kindred. The volume is edited by Charles R. Lanman.

ZOÖLOGY. In the report of the 66th meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Liverpool in September, 1896, is given (p. 490–492) the report of the committee on zoölogical bibliography and publication. The report consists of a series of questions which the committee is circulating, with the view of obtaining a "body of opinion" for a future report. The questions considered are of interest to librarians.

*INDEXES.*

CUMULATIVE index to a selected list of periodicals: authors, subjects, titles, reviews, portraits. First annual volume, 1896. Edited and published by The Public Library, Cleveland, O., 1897. 4+381 p. O.

The Cleveland Public Library is to be congratulated upon the success of its experiment in indexing, begun last year, which is no longer an experiment, as this interesting volume proves. The index in its permanent volume form includes 70 periodicals instead of the 60 with which the work was begun last June, and it embraces references to portraits and reviews as well as to articles, stories, and poems. It is compact, easy of consultation, and will be heartily appreciated by all librarians to whom, in its monthly "cumulative" issues it has become a most useful tool.

HENRY FARRAR, compiler of the "Index to obituary notices in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1731–1780," published in 1886, announces the issue of a continuation of that index for the period, 1781–1868. This supplement, which will cover over 2000 pages, will be privately printed and issued in four quarto volumes, giving the record for the 88 years in a single alphabet. It will be sold by subscription at 21s. per volume, and will be issued in an edition of 350 copies. Subscriptions should be sent to Mr. Farrar, 80 Hunton Road, S. E., London. Mr. Farrar has also in hand an "Index to the marriages in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1731–1868," which will be issued by Swan Sonnenschein & Co., in five quarto volumes, at £2 2s.; it also will be in one alphabet. Several other indexes of the sort have also been undertaken by Mr. Farrar, among them the "Marriages and obituary notices in *Scots' Magazine*, 1739–1826," "Obituary notices in *Walker's Hibernian Magazine*, 1771–1812," and "Irish marriages," being an index to the "Marriages in *Walker's Hibernian Magazine*, 1771–1813." The latter will be issued by Phillimore & Co., of London.

THE new *Scientific American* Supplement, which is called a "reference catalog" to the papers contained in that publication during the year, has just been issued by Munn & Co. The "catalog" is practically a subject index to articles in the *Scientific American*, and covers a wide variety of scientific subjects in a practical way. The subject of electricity occupies 14 nonpareil columns, and 15 subdivisions, and the classification is equally full in such subjects as Engineering, Iron and steel, Medicine, etc. A special edition of the supplement has been printed on heavy paper for library use, and will be sent free on request to any library.

CORRECTIONS TO POOLE. — Poole's index, 1882 ed., p. 256: under "Cid, chronicle of," for Quart. 1:117, *read* Quart. 1:134.

*Ibid.* p. 1241, 2d col. under "Staël-Holstein, Corinne," for Corinne, Ed. R. 9:183, *read* Corinne, Ed. R. 11:183. A. E. WHITAKER.

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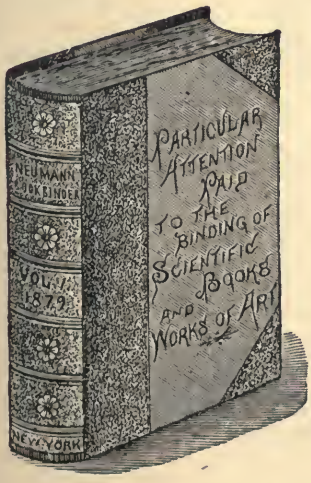


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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE International Conference at London was successful even beyond expectation. The attendance, of over 500, was remarkably representative, including, besides the 80 from the United States, delegates or representatives from most of the English colonies, and from most of the civilized nations. In fact no continent was without some representative — South America being represented from British Guiana; Asia from India, Hongkong, and Japan; Africa from the Cape; and Australia by several delegates. Most of the leading governments designated official representatives, several of whom took part, speaking in English, in the interesting final proceedings — an episode of special interest as showing how largely English is becoming the world-speech. The hospitality of the English hosts, not only of the librarians but of the governmental authorities in general, the representatives of the navy in particular, the city of London and all the cities and towns visited, the owners of the princely houses and estates of England, and the head of her dramatic art, could not be excelled. And there seemed especially evident, to the Americans, a universal desire to emphasize the fact that official discourtesies or disagreements from the politicians of the daughter country would not be permitted to shadow or lessen the real and vital relations of friendship which must exist between the two great nations of the English-speaking race. In a large sense the happiest result of the conference was this knitting together, in intimate personal relationship and appreciation, of the two countries as represented by people so much at the centres of intelligence and influence as are the librarians of to-day.

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FROM the professional point of view the conference was scarcely less a success. The papers were most of them broad, informing, or suggestive. There were almost none which wasted the time of the conference. The first paper called out a lively discussion, which set the pace for the rest of the meeting, and there was for the most part a remarkable exemption from the too well-known gentlemen who are more anxious to hear their own voices than to contribute to the well-being of their fellows. Perhaps the most marked difference between the conferences held in America and this in England was in the considerable number of scholarly or bibliographical (as distinguished from cataloging) papers and the absence of the many committee reports which in the American conferences of later years so systematically cover the library field. This last is, perhaps, because English librarians have not reached out into co-operative work as American librarians have done, while on the other hand England has developed a much more extensive library literature, aside from technical helps, than has America. It was much regretted that with the crowded program, the still more crowded features of hospitality, and the large number present from widely separate places, there was less of direct personal intercourse and acquaintanceship than is usual at the American conferences, and the fact that the English librarians had exhausted their vacation possibilities in preparing for and attending the conference itself kept them from the pre- and post-conference excursions so much enjoyed by the Americans, and lost this opportunity for those pleasant and profitable acquaintanceships which have done so much to unify and dignify the library profession in America.

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WHILE the library profession and the LIBRARY JOURNAL as its representative must continue to express regret that the greatest opportunity in the American library field has been treated as a question of political and partisan preferment, there will be the heartiest disposition to recognize to the fullest extent every act on the part of the new Librarian of Congress which goes to show that he means to make the great library at Washington really a national library, and to man it with the best men and adopt for it the best methods possible. Nothing can do more to justify the selection of Mr. Young than the admirable appointments he has made for the leading positions. Mr. Spofford's long and great services to the national library are recognized by appointment to a post in which his knowledge and experience should be of the greatest importance; Mr. Green was the one

man in the country to become superintendent of the building itself, the success of which is due so largely to his catholic ability; Mr. Hutcheson has well earned in this library itself the recognition that comes with his appointment as superintendent of the reading-room; and there can be but one opinion as to the choice for the new office of Register of Copyrights of the one man, Mr. Solberg, best fitted for this post by his specific knowledge of copyright bibliography, by his previous experience in one division of the national library, and by his earnest desire to do everything that he does in the best way in which it can be done. Mr. Solberg's appointment was strongly urged by the representatives of the copyright leagues and by all friends of copyright, and it is interesting to note that in this connection Mr. Young expressed his strong desire to administer the library throughout, in the selection of men, on the best principles.

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THERE will be general hope that the outcome of Mr. Young's appointment by President McKinley, though justly to be criticised as a partisan act, may have as happy an outcome as the appointment of Mr. Crandall by President Cleveland, which justly met with the same criticism. Mr. Crandall has proved one of the most effective officers in the service of the government, and the best wishes of the library profession will be with Mr. Young in hope that his record will be the same. While librarians emphasize the need of training as a chief qualification for the profession, there is no feeling of narrowness in excluding from library work those not already members of the profession, as the thorough appreciation of Mr. Crandall has shown, and Mr. Young will find himself heartily welcomed by every librarian, to the extent that he makes the national library what it should be and what it may be, one of the foremost libraries in the world.

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THERE seems little doubt that the Library Department of the National Educational Association was propitiously launched at Milwaukee in July. As this was the first regular meeting of the department since its organization at the Buffalo conference of the N. E. A. a year ago, it was of special importance that it should be an interesting and an influential one. It seems agreed that it was both. The attendance was not large, as compared with that of other section meetings of the conference, but there was plenty of enthusiasm, and plans were laid for a year of active work, while one of the most encouraging features of the occasion was the real interest that seemed awakened among teachers in the subject of children's reading and its guidance. Nearly all in attendance at the meetings were teachers — there were but about 20 librarians present, a representation much below what had been hoped for — and most of these were to be ranked among the younger workers. Both of these facts are encouraging, for it is on the teacher that the success of library work in the schools must depend, and it is particularly the younger teachers, whose methods of work are yet in the formative stage, that it is desirable to reach. How best to do this, and how practically and effectively to define and strengthen what are vaguely termed "the relations between libraries and schools," are among the most important of present educational questions. The realization of this fact was shown at the Milwaukee meeting by the decision to appoint a special committee to investigate and report upon this subject. Such a report, if it covers the field practically, dealing with conditions and not only with theories, should rank with the famous report of the Committee of Fifteen on secondary school studies, and should be a contribution of the greatest value to a subject that has not yet had much detailed attention from the educational side.

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IT is gratifying to note that, as it has emerged from the conference committee and become law, the new tariff bill accepts, for the most part, the modifications suggested by the members of the American Library Association as regards books, many of them in the exact form in which amendment was suggested. While books, etc., are made dutiable at 25 per cent., the free list includes those imported for the use of the United States or of the Library of Congress; those more than 20 years old; those issued by scientific and literary bodies, or by individuals for gratuitous private circulation, and public documents issued by foreign governments; those exclusively in languages other than English; those in raised print for the blind; those imported, not more than two copies, for educational institutions, state, or public libraries, and those brought in by persons coming from abroad, if actually used by them not less than one year. These are fairly liberal provisions in the free list, and their adoption is further evidence of the value of the A. L. A. in practical relations.

## ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF A LIBRARY STAFF.

By Frank P. Hill, *Librarian Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library.*

The usefulness of a library depends upon the efficiency of assistants and clerks employed, for upon them devolves the duty of meeting the public and its demands. The institution relies upon its assistants for its reputation at home and abroad; and it is unnecessary to say, therefore, that the staff should be organized and managed on a business basis, in the interests of the library and the public.

It is quite essential that there should be only one head, and that he should know his business. The executive officer must not be arbitrary, but must expect to have it said of him, if he keeps the institution up to a proper level, that he is exacting and hard to please. Even at the expense of popularity, the librarian must "keep at" his assistants if he wishes to secure system and order. He must maintain the high standard of excellence and duty of the staff by watchfulness and at the risk of being considered fault-finding. He should be strict, showing no partiality to relatives or friends, and should have no favorites on the staff to receive favors. It is his duty to bring to the notice of the staff not only the good things done, but any lapses which have occurred of such a general nature as may be named without hurting the feelings of any individual.

Two classes of employes with whom the wide-awake, progressive librarian is unpopular are, first, those who shirk their duty; second, those who, though doing their duty to the best of their ability, lack system and order, yet do not want to be found fault with.

I am not called upon to define the duties of assistants, or to answer question as to whether they shall learn all library work or only the work of one department, inasmuch as libraries differ as to details; but rather to consider how to keep those assistants to their duties.

The ideal assistant should be willing to do whatever is asked of her. She should be always courteous and polite, good-natured and obedient, accurate, systematic and orderly, prompt and regular, attentive and faithful, enthusiastic and forbearing, and above all things she should possess adaptability. It is better to be over-polite than overbearing, and the assistant must be impressed with the fact that she is a servant of the people, submitting many times to inconveniences and sometimes to insult, but never allowing the visitor to receive anything but the best attention.

There are few ideal assistants and fewer ideal librarians, therefore we shall speak of the ordinary mortal who takes a position in a public library.

Courtesy and politeness. — It is quite essential to good government that there should be an *esprit de corps* so pronounced that it will be noticeable to those who come into the library. Even though there may be some little jealousies — and they cannot be avoided where 20 or 30 women are gathered together — still it is possible to keep the knowledge of them from the public. A cheerful "good-morning" and a happy "good-night" are appreciated even by a dyspeptic.

Quoting from the writer's paper on "Library service" as prepared for the World's Library Congress: "What might be called 'class-friendships' are [often] formed, wherein those of a higher grade look down on those of a lower, and as sometimes occurs, do not want to associate with or do the work of the other. If allowed to remain, such a spirit breeds continual dissension. Pluck it out at once, even at the cost of hard feeling. When self is cast aside and all are working for the common good, the result is pleasing alike to the public, the trustees, and the staff. The members of the staff should keep in touch with each other as well as with all departments of the library. Good feelings produce good results. It is an excellent thing to bring the staff together (outside of library hours) to discuss library matters; and better still to meet socially on an occasional winter evening."

If such care is necessary toward those with whom we associate daily, how much more is it necessary toward the public who come to the library for business purposes! There is not an individual among my readers who does not have his or her favorite clerk with whom to trade at the store, and the same rule applies to patrons of the library. If we are not good-natured with our co-laborers, obedient to our superiors, and courteous and polite toward the public, resentment will be visited upon the library employes and management.

System and order. — "A place for everything and everything in its place" is one of the first rules to learn, and should be the motto of every aspiring assistant. To aid assistants in living up to this motto certain rules are essential.

Rules are made to be kept and not to be broken, and are for the whole force and not for a part of it. They are made because they are wise, just, and fair to the public and assistants alike. They are necessary for the good order, government, and organization of any library staff or any business enterprise whatsoever.

Rules as plain as the nose on one's face are easily obeyed. Others that should be as plain are skipped for no reason whatever. Large rules are obeyed ; it is in small rules and small things that lapses occur. It is necessary to iterate and reiterate these small rules in order to impress the necessity for observing all rules.

Sometimes one is inclined to do things in a little different way when there is no crowd than when there is a rush. This will not do. Time saved when a crowd is present is worth a great deal to the library and to the public, but not at the expense of system and accuracy.

Nor can rules be broken quietly when there is no crowd. If this is done, the individual deriving the benefit is quite likely to expect the same special favor in spite of the crowd.

Some think they may break a rule just a little, and some think that they may break it and no one else on the staff ought to break it. The only safety is in having rules for all and living up to them. One who is not satisfied to obey the rules as laid down should not make rules of her own, but should quietly take her departure.

The executive head expects assistants to have such knowledge of their own particular work that they can suggest improved methods of doing that work, and such suggestions are always desirable and pertinent. The librarian is always ready to adopt the best and easiest way. If the assistant thinks her way is better than the one adopted she ought to advise with the executive officer, or the one at the head of her particular department, before adopting it, in order that there may be unison. It is not safe to take too much for granted. A few questions asked of the authorities will save many little heartburns.

From the "Public library handbook" I quote: "If the library authorities have established a certain way of doing a thing, make up your mind that in all probability there is a reason for adopting that system, and so determine to understand it thoroughly and follow it faithfully. The end and aim of every system is order and economy; to keep apart things that ought to be apart, and to keep together things that ought to be together." Work should be left so that anyone can take it up and never at loose ends.

A high standard is necessary, and assistants must expect to be corrected and spoken to when mistakes are made, and should not "get sulky" when attention is called to such mistakes. If one does not want to be found fault with, the best thing to do is to perform the prescribed duty or resign. It is better to accept criticism and correction in the spirit in which they are given than to resent them.

If attention is not given to the rules as laid down by the trustees and librarian, one must expect to have fault found, but it is very much better to submit to what may seem stringent rules than to take the government in one's own hands. Assistants must understand that the one in charge of any department is to be obeyed and has authority to enforce discipline. The heads of departments should be backed up by the librarian. In short, obedience is one of the chief foundation stones of the library organization.

ACCURACY. — Mistakes will occur. Nobody knows this better than the librarian, who also knows that attention must be called to these mistakes whenever and wherever they occur, in order that they may happen as seldom as possible, the great consideration being to reduce mistakes to the least possible number. To insure accuracy in records the initial should be used in all possible transactions, so that errors may be traced and corrected.

There are those who believe the librarian delights in detecting errors, in finding fault and in administering reproof ; that when he is inspecting the library with an attentive ear and an observing eye it is for the sole purpose of picking flaws. Don't be misled; don't be suspicious; such is not the fact. No one knows better than he that praise and encouragement are good and necessary stimulants, and he is, or ought to be, willing to use them freely.

FAITHFULNESS AND ATTENTION. — By attention and habit one is surprised to find how easy it is to do naturally the right thing at the right time — to give the right answer to the right person.

Make yourself familiar with all details of the work wherever possible. It is better to respond to a call twice and find that the person has been attended to than to learn afterward that the person had waited a long time for some one to come.

Do a little more than your share.

ENTHUSIASM. — There will always be some on the staff who are at work only for the money they get out of it. From such people one need expect very little enthusiasm and very little real, good, downright hard work. In most cases the attendant who comes to the work when young — at 18, or even younger — is likely to have more love for the work, to understand better the real ideas of discipline, and to become more enthusiastic than one who takes up the work at 30, or later. The latter, if she has never worked before, is more inclined to go her own way, and to be a little more forgetful of the necessity for rules and regulations than would be the case were she younger.

TIME RECORD AND HOURS OF LABOR. — The library requires and is entitled to so many hours a day, and to say that assistants should meet this requirement is merely stating a business truism.

The average day should not exceed seven hours.

These hours are short, and one should expect to work up to them closely. Nine o'clock means at work at nine, and not in the building at nine.

A time record is necessary, and should be kept on honor if assistants will do it; if not, a time-clock takes the place of honor. Until an assistant becomes accustomed to regularity she is quite likely to think that five minutes is not of special importance to the library, particularly if she is coming back five minutes ahead of her usual time, forgetting for the moment the inconvenience that such change, without notice to the proper head, is likely to make to the other assistants. System must be maintained. If one assistant comes and goes in the fashion mentioned she disarranges the system and incommodes the others.

Arrival and departure should be put down day by day, and not left for two or three days. If one comes in five minutes early the record should be made at the proper time and not at the real time of arrival, for it infrequently happens that one goes to work *before* the hour set.

Promptness and regularity, therefore, are prime requisites.

Members of the staff should not spend time in talking to friends. You are not expected to sit down with those friends and talk over family and social matters in library time, and at a busy time should not stop to talk, but ask to be excused. At such a time the business obligation is greater than any social one. It is hardly necessary to say that constant conversation should not be carried on among assistants who happen to have work away from the delivery-desk or the head of any department, any more than they would be expected to look out of the window at every passing vehicle, because both are a waste of time.

CONCLUSION. — Assistants should be allowed time for illness and occasional absences for a short time without the loss of pay, where it can be made up without injury to discipline or to the work, and should be allowed to change with others. Assistants should feel that they can have an occasional leave of absence, and that they are not tied to the grindstone so closely that there is no relief. Absence for one-half hour or more for a good reason should be made up without loss of pay.

When absent regard should be had for others, and reasons should be sent to the librarian without delay.

Assistants should also be allowed to come in at any time outside of their own hours to learn work in other departments than in the one to which they are assigned. Promotion should be made from grade to grade whenever merit warrants the filling of a vacancy through such promotion.

The easy-going librarian is complained of more than the opposite kind. If good results are obtained in any library they must come through the hearty co-operation of trustees, librarian, and the staff.

"There is no more important function of the executive," says Mr. Crunden, "than that involved in his relation to his staff. It is, indeed, the very sum and centre of the executive department, for all orders of the board, as well as all action lying within the librarian's initiative, must be executed through assistants, and the effective organization and oversight of his staff is therefore the prime duty of the librarian as executive officer. Much of the success of the library, as of a business house, depends on the effective organization of the staff. The librarian should take a personal interest in his assistants down to the youngest page. He should encourage them in self-improvement, he should fairly and favorably represent them to the trustees, securing, as far as possible, their dues in hours, opportunities, and salaries. It also goes without saying that he should stand between his assistants and unfounded complaints or unreasonable criticism from the public."

# BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ENDEAVORS IN AMERICA.*

By R. R. Bowker.

The wearied bibliographer, at work upon a book about books, has sometimes an overwhelming sense of the littleness of human endeavor. He feels himself a "second cousin twice removed" from literature; a cube root only in the integration of books; a minor craftsman who makes the key which opens the door to the vestibule of "kings' treasuries." The scholar, indeed, is disposed to aver that the bibliographer often makes not so much a key as a burglar's "jimmy," forcing entry into all storehouses of knowledge, which should be properly approached only by trained skill and patient research. The Scripture text, "Of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh," comes home with a realizing sense indeed to the bibliographer. Perhaps I have no right, as chiefly an editor, a bibliographer-by-proxy, to voice these complaints; but I am nevertheless in the better position to recognize that patient toil, often done in the dejection I have indicated, by the great number of bibliographical scholars whose work, after all, is of real and wide service, the more in these days and in coming days, when even the work of selection is beyond the province of any one scholar in any one field, and when the bibliographer must be more and more depended upon to clear the way for the scholar. It is in this spirit that I shall endeavor to present briefly to this company of English and Americans gathered under their common roof, and of librarians and bibliographers from many sister nations, an index review of American endeavors in bibliography.

In the early years American bibliography was largely a book-trade matter, and such in good part it has continued to be. So early as 1802 an American Company of Booksellers was organized, which made almost its first business the publication in 1804 of a "Catalogue of all the books printed in the United States," which catalog had the imprint of the "booksellers in Boston." Thereafter there was little outside the book lists printed periodically in the *Port Folio* and in the *North American Review* until, in 1847, Simeon Ide, of Claremont, N. H., published a "Reference trade list," compiled by Alexander V. Blake, which proved the *avant courier* of an important kind of work, though it is scarcely to be classed as bibliography. This publication presented the book lists of American publishers of the day, printed in the order of publishers, and was the forerunner of the several aggregations of publishers' lists into one or more volumes, now to be found in the United States, England, France, and Italy. The idea was taken up by Mr. Howard Challen, who printed in 1867 a uniform "Trade list circular," into which publishers' catalogs were combined, which was followed in 1872 by the "Trade circular annual," issued by Frederick Leypoldt. In 1873 Mr. Leypoldt began in its present form the "Publishers' trade list annual," which gave the model for Whitaker's "Reference catalogue of English literature," published successively in 1874, 1875, 1877, 1878, 1880, 1885, 1889, and 1894; for the "Catalogo collettivo della libreria italiana," doing like service for Italy, first issued in 1878; and for the "Bibliographie Française," started in France during the year past by H. Le Soudier.

In the meantime, American bibliographers in England, as well as English bibliographers, were doing more for American bibliography than the Americans at home. George P. Putnam, the publisher, issued in 1845, while in London, a compilation of "American facts," containing a literary department. That veteran bibliographer, Sampson Low, printed in 1856 his "American catalogue, or English guide to American literature," purporting to give works published in the United States since 1800, but containing really books after 1840; Nicholas Trübner published in 1855 his "Bibliographical guide to American literature," and Henry Stevens, "of Vermont," printed in 1866 his "Catalogue of the American books in the library of the British Museum at Christmas, 1856," supplemented by later bibliographies from his workshop and by a valuables mass of later en-

* Paper read at International Library Conference, London, July 16, 1897, and here printed with the request to librarians to supply, for the purposes of the "American catalogue, 1800–76," herein described, titles of any bibliographies not mentioned herein or in the articles by A. Growoll in the *Publishers' Weekly* of June 19 and 26 and July 3.

tries now in the possession of his son. It is interesting to note how largely American bibliography, during these years, had its seat in the mother-country.

An enterprising young bookseller, Orville A. Roorbach, apprenticed in 1821 to Evert Duyckinck in New York, began, on his removal to Charleston, S. C., "At the sign of the Red Bible," the systematic collection of American book titles, beginning with 1820; and in 1849, being then again in New York with George P. Putnam, he published the first volume of his "Bibliotheca Americana," including reprints and original American publications from 1820 to 1848 inclusive. This was extended by a supplement published in 1850, both of which were combined in his "Bibliotheca Americana" of 1852, in turn continued by a supplement of 1855, a volume of addenda of 1858, and a volume IV. of 1861. The latter volume was issued by the son of the original compiler, who died in 1861. Roorbach, although his work is most imperfect bibliogaphically, is entitled to great credit for his personal labors and professional enterprise in making the first real "American catalogue." His work was complemented in some measure in the periodicals and volumes edited by Charles B. Norton between 1851 and 1862. With the war, however, the book trade suffered a period of stagnation, but the mantle of Roorbach fell upon a young Irishman named James Kelly, who in 1866 published the first volume of his "American catalogue," 1861 to 1865 inclusive, and in 1871 a second volume, bringing the record up to that date.

In 1876, the centennial year which gave stimulus to many important American enterprises, including the LIBRARY JOURNAL and the organizing meeting of the American Library Association, Frederick Leypoldt, among the foremost of American bibliographers, started the compilation of the original volume of the present "American catalogue" series. This was confined to books in print and for sale in 1876, and made two huge volumes, one of author-and-title and one of subject entries, which work has been supplemented by three successive volumes, covering the periods 1876–84, 1884–90, and 1890–95, the later ones with appendixes giving the publications of the United States, of the several states, and of publishing societies of America — the last-named containing, in the volume for 1890–95, entries of the issues from nearly 500 such societies, some of them of the first literary or bibliographical importance. This work is the culmination of the trade bibliographical work carried through the office of the *Publishers' Weekly*, beginning with the weekly full-title annotated record, proceeding with the monthly index in the first issue of each month, carried forward in the "Annual American catalogue," for which the type has literally been kept standing from week to week till the end of the year, and so on to the large five-yearly volumes. This is, perhaps, the most comprehensive national bibliography which has been attempted in the book trade.

Work is now going forward upon a volume in this series, scheduling the books of the early part of the century not in print in 1876, which, with the volume for 1895–1900, will complete a record of American books of the 19th century and furnish material for a systematized general catalog supplementing that noble achievement, the British Museum printed catalog, should it be found practicable to print such a comprehensive and costly work. I am glad to note that Dr. Garnett has kindly indicated the willingness of the British Museum authorities to give every facility for completing this material from its rich resources, one of many services for which I have endeavored to indicate the gratitude of American bibliographers by inscribing to him the current volume of the "American catalogue."

The works of Obadiah Rich, who published his "Bibliotheca Americana Nova 1493–1844" in London in 1835 and 1846; of E. G. Allen, who printed a small catalog of books before 1800 relating to America; and of the two Russell Smiths, whose "Bibliotheca Americana" (really sales catalogs) were published in London in 1849, 1853, 1865, 1871, and 1874, were the predecessors of the very remarkable piece of work initiated by Joseph Sabin, another American veteran who gave years of his life to the preparations for his "Bibliotheca Americana," not completed during his lifetime, but continued under the publishing management of his son. Many of the early volumes had the benefit of the editorship of C. A. Cutter, and the later volumes have been edited by Wilberforce Eames, librarian of the Lenox Library, New York. Mr. Sabin, during his years of bookselling and auction-room experience, collected every title on which he could lay hands, and of his great work 116 parts, carrying the alphabet to Smith, have already been issued. Whether

the work will be ultimately completed through the alphabet it is not fully possible to say. In this category is to be mentioned also Henry Harrisse's "Bibliotheca Americana," descriptive of works relating to early America, 1492–1551, published in New York in 1856, with a supplement issued in Paris in 1872.

One of the most interesting of early American publications was the "Bookbuyer's manual," published in New York in 1853 by George P. Putnam, which was resumed in 1872 and continued under the title of "Best reading," in successive volumes, under the general management of his son and worthy successor, George. Haven Putnam. These books were intended as select guides to general literature, foreshadowing Sonnenschein's "Best books," and since the issue of that more important work it has been found unnecessary to continue the American publication.

Meantime, however, a new class of bibliography has developed in America, based on what George Iles, its chief promoter, calls the "evaluation" of books. The "Readers' guide in economic, social, and political science," issued through the Society for Political Education by Mr. Iles and myself, in 1891, was an attempt in this direction; but the best example of it has been found in the so-called "List of books for girls and women and their clubs," originally planned in other shape by Miss Ellen M. Coe, but issued under the auspices of the American Library Association in 1895, under Mr. Iles' management and chiefly at his cost, Mrs. A. H. Leypoldt being associated in the editorial work. Since the issue of that volume—or, in its small series, volumes—Mr. Iles has also provided for an expansion of a part of the work, the divisions of fine arts and music, into a very remarkable annotated bibliography of those subjects, prepared respectively by two of the first American scholars in those departments—Mr. Russell Sturgis and Mr. Henry E. Krehbiel. This work, although covering only two specific fields, is an admirable example of the work to which Mr. Iles is most altruistically devoting his time, force, and money. Something of the sort, although not in bibliographical form, had already been done by American scholars in the field of history; but the descriptive notes and comparative annotations planned by Mr. Iles are a distinct development of bibliographical literature proper.

In the library field, America has made several bibliographical endeavors worthy of note. The great catalog of the Boston Athenæum, although now out of date, has been for years a standard in cataloging; the composite catalog of the Brooklyn Library, semi-dictionary, semi-classed, compiled by Mr. S. B. Noyes, its first librarian, was for many years used throughout American libraries as a substitute for such a volume as Sonnenschein's work; the Peabody Institute of Baltimore has issued a remarkable catalog, and there are others beyond possibility of mention. American library bibliography has, however, taken the shape rather of special lists, such as those of the Boston Public, Harvard, Providence, and other libraries, published usually in library bulletins; or of card calalogs, often with useful notes or annotations as to the value of a book, and this last method has developed into the co-operative card catalog promoted by the American Library Association, and published for it by the Library Bureau. The plan of providing co-operatively full title entries with annotations for use on library cards has been under consideration in American library circles for many years, and one attempt was made in the weekly "Title-slip registry," which reprinted the weekly lists from the *Publishers' Weekly* on one side of thin paper, so that the entries might be cut out and pasted on cards of any size. These same titles were also printed for a while on cards, but then, as now, it was difficult to obtain adequate support for such work, and it is still a question whether the cards issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Section, which are subscribed for by less than 100 libraries, can find a continuous and adequate support.

Within the year past five of the most important libraries, at the initiative of Dr. John S. Billings, of the New York Public Library, now in process of development, have united in the preparation of printed cards for articles in the scientific periodicals, and a plan is under consideration for putting these cards at the service of other libraries through the medium of the Publishing Section.

The Publishing Section of the American Library Association itself is one of the most interesting developments in American bibliographical work. Its purpose is to provide for the printing of bibliographies and other library aids which could not be provided by any one library and would not be issued by any publisher. Among its distinctive work has been

the provision of lists of books for children, such as Sargent's "Reading for the young" and Miss Hewins' recent little list of "Books for boys and girls," and the issue of the "List of subject-headings," edited by Gardner M. Jones. This use of library co-operation may be cordially commended to the associations of other nations, for it has proved one of the best results that the American Library Association can show. Under its auspices, and under the title of the "A. L. A. index to general literature," there has been published the index to essays and the chapters of composite books, edited by Mr. W. I. Fletcher, the associate of Dr. Poole and the chairman of the Publishing Section, which is of international value.

A word should be said of the remarkable work of Dr. Poole himself, known throughout the world as "Poole's index," the more remarkable because it was planned and first issued by him while a student in Yale College. This index to periodical literature is, perhaps, as well known as any single bibliography published. It has been extended in five-yearly supplements by Dr. Poole's associate, Mr. Fletcher, with the co-operation of members of the American Library Association, and is now continued, as is also the "A. L. A. index to general literature," in annual lists which form part of the "Annual literary index." The monthly and quarterly compilations of this sort had been discontinued with the appearance of the "Annual literary index," but within the year past Mr. W. H. Brett, of Cleveland, has issued from the Cleveland Public Library a "Cumulative index" to periodical literature, of most interesting plan. He uses the linotype machine to print in January an index to articles in January magazines, in February an index to January and February magazines, and so on, until the December issue covers cumulatively the entries for the whole 12 months and becomes a record of the year and a permanent volume.

Our national library, still called the Library of Congress, has not yet taken its proper place, filled in large measure in the mother-country by the British Museum, of heading and centralizing bibliographical work. The few printed volumes of its catalog are partial, incomplete, and antiquated, and the physical congestion prevailing until lately has made progress difficult. The *Weekly Register* of copyrights also has not been bibliographically useful. But the national library is now removing its books to the finest library building in the country, and it is in process of reorganization, the registry of copyrights being made a distinctive department. This gives the library a remarkable opportunity. For a fee of 50 cents, additional to a like fee for copyright entry, the Register of Copyrights is obliged to return a record of copyright, and it is the practice of copyright proprietors to pay the double fee and obtain the record in all cases. If, in the new developments, it should be arranged that this record shall take the shape of a printed card for catalog entry, and if duplicates of such cards could be supplied to subscribing libraries, a great step forward in practical bibliography would be made.

For co-operation, and in this case centralization, *is* a vital feature in this class especially library work. All that can be done once for all, and by one for all, should be so done. The more "the librarian of the future" is freed from mere record work, the more opportunity he will have for the useful exercise of his individuality. First, *collection*, but foremost, *selection*, must be the golden word in the treatment of books. So, first *co-operation*, but foremost *individualization*, must be the golden word in the administration of libraries. The superstition that one book must be cataloged a hundred times in as many libraries, to ensure a supply of catalogers and librarians, is unworthy of the day. The printed card, the general bibliography, co-operative helps of all kinds, should liberate the time, the money, and the force of the librarian and his staff, for the more vital work of adapting his library to the local and individual needs of the particular community of human beings which it is his duty and his delight to serve.

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## AN INTERSTATE LIBRARY MEETING PLANNED.

A NEW development of the joint library association meetings that have proved so successful within the last year or so, is planned for the coming winter, when it is proposed to hold a joint meeting of the librarians of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, for the special discussion of library commissions, travelling libraries, and libraries and schools. The place and date are not yet definitely decided, though it is probable that the meeting will be held in or near Chicago in January or February next.

## THE DISINFECTION OF BOOKS BY VAPOR OF FORMALIN.

In 1896, at the suggestion of Dr. J. S. Billings, then director of the Laboratory of Hygiene of the University of Pennsylvania, a series of experiments were undertaken at that laboratory by Elmer Grant Horton, testing the efficiency of formalin vapor as a disinfectant for books.. The results of Mr. Horton's experiments were described by him in the *Medical News* of August 8, 1896. Since then formalin vapor has attracted considerable attention as a book disinfectant; it has been used for this purpose by Dr. Billings at the New York Public Library, and many librarians have asked for information as to its use and effect.

In his article, which was also reprinted in pamphlet form from the *Medical News*, Mr. Horton refers briefly to the probability of library books being, at one time or another, handled by persons with infectious diseases, and thus becoming channels through which the disease may be disseminated. This danger, he says, is not a matter of conjecture, "for Du Cazel and Catrin have shown that books may be the vehicles of contagion. The results of their experiments were positive for the diptheria bacillus, streptococcus, and pneumococcus, although negative for tubercle bacillus and bacillus of typhoid." The methods of disinfection used by these and other investigators were so elaborate as to be impracticable for general use. The process proposed by Du Cazel and Catrin involved disinfection of the book by the autoclave, and necessitated the exclusion of bound volumes and board covers, which were injured by the process. To obviate this difficulty, Miquel in his experiments used a strip of cloth, saturated in formalin and stretched on rollers, and spread directly beneath a rack on which the books were placed, with the edge of the leaves downwards, the whole being covered by a large jar for from 24 to 48 hours. Similar experiments in the use of formalin were made by Von Ermengem and Sugg, who found that sterilization could be effected at a temperature of 60° C. in 24 hours, but who considered books as difficult of disinfection.

The experiments conducted by Mr. Horton were made with the purpose of testing a method at once simple and efficient. The continued maintenance of a temperature of 60° C. (140° F.) was thought to be generally impracticable, and the tests were made at room temperature varying from 19° to 31° C. (66.2° to 87.8° F.). To avoid cutting the leaves of the books, a sheet of paper was folded once, and between the two leaves thus formed was placed a sheet of paper 2 cm. square. The sheets with their enclosed squares were then sterilized by dry heat, placed in a book at desired pages, and the squares smeared with a 24-hour-old bouillon culture of the organisms chosen — which were *B. typhi abdominalis*, *B. diphtheriæ*, and *staphylococcus pyogenes aureus*, "all of which are likely to occur in books." After drying the cultures by use of the incubator, and obtaining control cultures from the squares, the books were placed under a bell-jar. A measured amount of formalin was then placed in a shallow glass dish under the bell-jar and allowed to evaporate, the surface of evaporation varying from 26 to 70 sq. cm. "After removal from the exposure to formalin the books were allowed to stand for various periods of time, protected from dust. At several dates after the exposure, portions of the squares were placed in bouillon at 37° C. (98.6° F.), and observed daily for some time." The periods of exposure were for 24 hours and over, for one hour, and for 15 minutes, with varying proportions of air to amount of formalin. "The results demonstrated that 1 c.c. of formalin to 300 c.c. of air will thoroughly disinfect a book in 15 minutes, while with an exposure of one hour no greater amount of air can be permitted without vitiating the result. If the exposure be extended to 24 hours, disinfection failed to be obtained with 375 c.c. of air to 1 c.c. of formalin."

The specific conclusions reached are thus summarized:

1. Books can be disinfected in a closed space simply by vapor of commercial formalin, by using 1 c.c. of formalin to 300 c.c. or less of air.

2. The vapor of formalin is rapid in its disinfectant action. The effect produced in the first 15 minutes is practically equivalent to that observed after 24 hours.

3. An increase in the amount of air to each c.c. of formalin is not counterbalanced by an increase in the time of exposure.

4. In case the disinfection has been incomplete, the vitality of the organisms has been so weakened that they survive only if transferred in a few hours to media suitable for their development.

5. The use of vapor of formalin is not detrimental, as far as observed, in any manner to the books, nor is it objectionable to the operator beyond a temporary irritation of the nose and eyes, somewhat similar to that produced by ammonia.

In connection with the subject of disinfection of library books, it may be noted that in the *Mémorial de la Librairie Française* for June 10 and 17 of this year, M. Ferd. Vander Haeghen, of the Royal Academy of Belgium, discusses "Books and contagious diseases," and paints a gruesome enough picture of the dangers to public health that lie in "a fatal habit that is constantly increasing, that of moistening the finger to turn the page of a book." He cites the statement of Messrs. Du Cazel and Catrin as to the communicability of disease by means of books, and urges that public attention be more effectively called both to the danger of infection that persistence in the habit referred to entails, and to its offensiveness as injuring and defacing the books themselves. The editor of the *Mémorial* remarks that it is in childhood only that instruction in the proper use of books will be effective, and suggests that the minister of public instruction issue a circular on the subject, which, if the rules given therein were followed, would effectually prevent "the increase of a habit prejudicial to the health of all."

## MEETING OF LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF THE N. E. A.

THE conference of the National Educational Association, held in Milwaukee, July 6 – 9, was of especial interest to librarians, as it marked the first general meeting of the Library Department of that association, which was organized at the Buffalo conference a year ago. The department held two sessions, on July 8 and 9, at both of which there was a large and interested attendance. The place of meeting was Calvary Church, considered, perhaps, the hottest church in the city, and the weather was oppressively sultry. Yet at the first meeting the attendance was 200, and at the second there was an audience of between 700 and 800. Nearly all of those present were teachers. About 20 librarians attended, the majority being from Wisconsin and Illinois. Among those present from more distant states were W. R. Eastman, Mr. Wiswell, and Miss Myrtilla Avery, of the New York State Library; A. L. Peck, of the Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library; Mr. Brandegee, trustee of the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library; Mr. Patton, of the Helena (Mont.) Public Library; and Miss M. W. Plummer, of the Pratt Institute Library. In the absence of Miss Ahern, secretary of the department, Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, of the Milwaukee Public Library, acted in her place. The president, Mr. Dewey, was also absent, and all arrangements as to program were made by the vice-president, J. H. Van Sickle, of Denver, who was most active in making the meeting a success.

The first session, on the afternoon of July 8, was opened by Mr. Van Sickle, who read a communication from Mr. Dewey, urging the importance of the work of the department and emphasizing the value of the present meeting as an occasion for the exchange of suggestion and experience between librarians and teachers. Miss Mae Schreiber, of the Milwaukee State Normal School, then read a paper on "Training teachers to co-operate with librarians," in which she described as an example of special training for this work the course in "literature and library reading" conducted at the Milwaukee State Normal School.

"Observations upon children's reading" was presented by R. W. Bullock, a student of pedagogy in the University of Colorado, who summarized the results of investigations on the subject, data for which was obtained in the schools of Denver and its vicinity. The "observations" made gave additional proof to the established fact that most children read "not wisely but too well," and that improvement in the quality of reading is sadly needed. There was an animated and interesting discussion on the subject, which was opened by Miss Millicent Kaltenbach, of North Denver, who had found that school-room libraries were helpful factors in improving the reading of school-children. Many others, teachers and librarians, offered their opinions, and the paper proved perhaps the most inspiring one of the meeting.

The session was closed by Prof. Richard Jones, literature inspector of the University of the State of New York, who spoke on "The moral and literary responsibility of librarians in selecting books." A committee of five to nominate officers and report on organization was then appointed, F. A. Hutchins being named as chairman.

The second and final session, on Friday afternoon, opened with a paper on "How to make sure of good books in our libraries," by W. R. Eastman, who found four conditions necessary to wise selection: (1) Definite responsibility of the trustees, (2) a distinct comprehension of the difference between good and bad books, (3) expert judgment, and (4) special information concerning new publications.

W. H. Smiley, principal of high school district no. 1, of Denver, followed with a talk upon "The relation of the library to art education in the schools." Mr. Smiley considered some of the means whereby the library can cultivate refined taste among teachers and pupils, and can supplement the department of drawing, if there be one, or can make good the deficiency if no such department exists. To this end he urged that the library bring to the notice of teachers the masters of illustration in the literature of childhood; that it catalog the work of the artist with the same care that it catalogs the work of the author, and that it make the library itself a place at once inviting and artistically attractive.

The closing paper was the feature of the afternoon. It was on "Literature and democracy," and was by William Hawley Smith, author of "The evolution of Dodd." Mr. Smith's incisiveness, humor, and direct statements made his address wholly delightful. It was largely an argument for the proper teaching of reading in schools, and for the provision of bright and cheerful books for children. He recommended the use of magazines, and strongly urged the value of close relations with libraries and librarians.

The recommendations submitted by the committee on organization were then accepted, and it was *Voted*,

"1. That the Library Department secure an enrolment of those interested in its work.

"2. That a committee be appointed to prepare and recommend lists of books and editions suited for the reading and reference use of pupils in the several grades of the public schools, to report at the annual meeting, and to make partial reports from time to time through the press and at as early a date as possible.

"3. That a committee of not less than seven nor more than 15, which shall include the department president, be appointed to report on the relations of public libraries to the public schools, indicating methods of co-operation by which the usefulness of both may be increased.

"4. That the appointment of these committees be made by the officers of the department acting as an executive board."

The officers of the department for 1897 – 98 were elected as follows: President, L. D. Harvey, president Milwaukee State Normal School; Vice-president, J. H. Van Sickle; Secretary, Miss Myrtilla Avery, N. Y. State Library.

## THE TARIFF RELATING TO BOOKS.

THE following is the exact text of the book provisions of the tariff act approved July 24:

SCHEDULE M.—*Manufactures of Papers.*

403. Books of all kinds, including blank books and pamphlets, and engravings bound or unbound, photographs, etchings, maps, charts, music in books or sheets, and printed matter, all the foregoing not specially provided for in this act, twenty-five per centum ad valorem.

FREE LIST.

500. Books, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, maps and charts imported by authority or for the use of the United States or for the use of the Library of Congress.

501. Books, maps, music, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, and charts which shall have been printed more than twenty years at the date of importation, and all hydrographic charts and publications issued for their sub criber, or exchanges by scientific and literary associations or academies, or publications of individuals for gratuitous private circulation, and public documents issued by foreign governments.

502. Books and pamphlets printed exclusively in languages other than English; also books and music in raised print, used exclusively by the blind.

503. Books, maps, music, photographs, etchings, lithographic prints, and charts, specially imported, not more than two copies in any one invoice, in good faith, for the use or by order of any society or institution incorporated or established solely for religious, philosophical, educational, scientific, or literary purposes, or for the encouragement of the fine arts, or for the use or by order of any college, academy, school or seminary of learning in the United States, or any state or public library, and not for sale, subject to such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

504 Books, libraries, usual and reasonable furniture, and similar household effects of persons or families from foreign countries, all the foregoing if actually used abroad by them not less than one year, and not intended for any other person or persons, nor for sale.

## THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE "conditions of competition" for the new building of the Newark Public Library, issued in pamphlet form to architects on June 21, outline the main features of what should prove an interesting and suggestive example of library architecture. The erection of the new building was authorized by the bill of March 17, 1896, which provided for the issue of $300,000 worth of bonds for the purpose. The site chosen is centrally located on Washington street, and the building, exclusive of architects' fees, stacks, and fittings, is to cost not over $190,000. In the preparation of the conditions the library committee have been aided by Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, of Columbia University, as consulting architect. The competition is open to all architects, but five firms will be especially invited to enter. Each of these will receive $250 for their work, but in case one of the five should be selected, this sum is to be considered as a first instalment on his commission. All plans must be submitted between Sept. 20–23, and within one week after that date a jury of award, consisting of the consulting architect, a member of the library board, and the librarian, will make final decision.

The conditions call for an "administration building," directly communicating with a stack building. The former is to consist of three stories and a basement, and should be made "as broad and short as the requirements of light and space will permit." In the basement are to be placed a children's room, newspaper reading room, delivery-station room, bindery, packing and repair rooms, public and staff bicycle rooms, and facilities for storage, etc. The delivery-room is, of course, the main feature of the first floor, but the most interesting details of the plan are found here in the provision of a fiction-room and a biography-room, where free access will be practicable to the books in these classes. These two rooms, with the public catalog-room, must be grouped with the delivery-room proper, or may form substantially one room, if desired, and should be at the rear of the building, to allow direct communication with the stacks. On this floor also is the main reading-room, a public check-room, and the librarian's public room. The third floor is to be given up to the reference-room, study and special collections rooms, staff and work rooms, and trustees' room; while the third story shall contain a lecture-hall for about 250 people. The stack building is to have present accommodation for 200,000 v., with ample provision for future extension.

## THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANS.

THE first architectural competition for plans for the building of the New York Public Library was closed on July 15, when 88 designs had been submitted. The report of the advisory committee, consisting of Prof. Ware, Dr. Billings, and Mr. Bernard R. Green, was presented on July 22, and the conditions of the second and final competition were made public on August 2. The general plan for both competitions has already been fully noted in the JOURNAL (June, p. 296). The following architects will take part in the second competition: Carrère & Hastings, Cyrus L. W. Eidlitz, J. H. Freedlander, Charles C. Haight, Haydel & Shepard, H. Hornbostel, G. E. Wood & G. C. Palmer, Howard & Cauldwell, McKim, Mead & White, Peabody & Stearns, George B. Post, W. Wheeler Smith, associated with Walker & Morris, and Whitney Warren. Six of these are chosen from the first competition, and six are invited to take part by the trustees. Plans must be submitted by Nov. 1, and it is hoped to make final decision promptly thereafter.

The conditions for the final competition are detailed, and accompanied by suggestive plans; they include also the report on the preliminary competition, the result of which has been "to show conclusively that the requirements both of public use and convenience and of economical administration can be better met by the arrangements suggested in the tentative plan than by any other." The only important changes made in the first suggestive plans are (1) the raising of the level of the basement floor on 42d street, and the making of the 42d street entrance in the basement, and (2) the placing of the delivery-room in the basement story instead of in the first story.

## THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE, LONDON, JULY 13–16, 1897.

THE first International Library Conference, held in London in October, 1877, was notable as giving the first organized impulse to library work in Great Britain, and resulting in the foundation of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. In the 20 years that have passed since then, such advances in library development have taken place that it is doubtful if the second international conference, just closed, may claim as noticeable and immediate results as did its precursor. Yet this second conference was in itself the most striking testimony to the 20 years of library progress that it commemorated. In attendance, in enthusiasm, in the interest of the program and the various phases of the subject it presented, this conference must long rank as one of the most memorable events in library history. There was an attendance well beyond 500, nearly a fifth of which represented American libraries, and which included representatives of the libraries of France, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Japan, Australia, and other countries. Invitations had been sent to the chief libraries of the world, and the arrangements of the English hosts were marked by the most lavish hospitality and cordial friendliness, as is witnessed by the record of the social features set forth elsewhere.

The officers in charge of the conference were: Sir John Lubbock, president; H. R. Tedder, hon. treasurer; and J. Y. W. MacAlister, hon. secretary; while the various committees on program, reception, exhibition, etc., included Alderman Harry Rawson, president of the L. A. U. K., Dr. Richard Garnett, J. D. Brown, Charles Welch, E. M. Borrajo, Herbert Jones, E. W. B. Nicholson, Peter Cowell, and others. An interesting exhibition of library appliances was held in connection with the conference at the Guildhall, which included, besides card fittings, indicators, newspaper files, photographs and plans of library buildings, magazine racks, etc., the series of photographs of conference groups and examples of fine binding from the Chiswick Art Workers, Roger Coverly, Cobden Sanderson, and Zaehnsdorf.

The conference proper opened on Tuesday, July 13, but the *conversazione* held at the Guildhall on Monday evening really marked the beginning of the week's round of work and play. It was held under the auspices of the reception committee and the Bibliographical Society, and a special feature of the evening was Dr. Garnett's scholarly address on "The introduction of European printing in the east," which, however, appeared in the program as a part of the next morning's business.

### FIRST DAY.

On Tuesday morning, July 13, the first session was opened in the council chamber of the Guildhall. The Lord Mayor of London made a short address of welcome, speaking of his personal interest, as chairman of the library committee of the town of Hertford, in the question of public libraries, and emphasizing the fact that book reading and book collecting should go hand in hand, and that use of the public library should lead to the acquisition of a private library. In regard to reading generally, he said that careless reading was to be deprecated, and indiscriminate reading was generally objectionable, but that he believed that "indiscriminate charity is better than no charity at all, and that indiscriminate reading is better than no reading at all."

Sir John Lubbock, after moving a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, which was seconded by Alderman Rawson, then took the chair, and, greeting the members in a few cordial words, delivered his address as president of the conference. Tracing the origin of the present congress to the act passed by a private member of Parliament, Mr. Ewart, in 1850, he pointed out the effect of the public libraries act in Great Britain since that time. "It has been adopted by some 250 places containing nearly half our people. Moreover the progress has been remarkable. It was passed in 1850 and soon adopted by several places. From 1857 to 1866 it was adopted by 15 localities, from 1867 to 1876 by 45, from 1877 to 1886 by 62, from 1887 to 1896 by no less than 190. In London the recent progress has been even more remarkable. From 1850 to 1866 only one public library was established, and Westminster has the honor of taking the lead. From 1867 to 1876 not one; from 1876 to 1886 only 2, from 1887 to 1896 no less than 32! These libraries now contain over 5,000,000 volumes; the annual issues amount to 27,000,000 and the attendances to 60,000,000. Five millions of volumes sounds enormous, but after all in proportion to the population it is not large.

"Australia has 844 public libraries with 1,400,000 volumes; New Zealand, 298 with 330,000; South Africa, about 109 with 300,000; in Canada the public libraries contain over 1,500,000 volumes. The United States possessed in 1890, 1686 public libraries containing 13,800,000 volumes. These numbers, however, are hardly comparable with ours. They include in some cases college and law libraries.* Moreover, we have many public libraries, which

* In 1891 the United States had, according to the government statistics, 3804 public and school libraries, containing 26,896,537 v.; in 1896, according to the last official statistics, it had 4026 libraries and 33,051,872 v. — ED. L. J.

are not included in the above numbers. The British Museum alone contains 2,000,000 volumes."

The speaker touched upon the ever-present fiction question, saying that the amount of time necessary to read a novel was so much less than that required for works of science or other serious literature that the disproportion in the use of the two classes was not so great as it seemed. He asked the question, "What is a book?"—a question that is not so easily answered as one might think, for the Chancellor of the Exchequer is recorded as saying that he used to think he knew, but after reading in the postal guide the two pages and a half of close print devoted to this definition, he found he was quite mistaken. The difficulty in wisely choosing books was noted, and the frequent burial of good books under misleading titles, Sir John instancing a volume, which under the title "The planetary and stellar worlds" was a flat failure, but when rechristened "The orbs of heaven" sold at the rate of 6000 copies in the first month. The development of bibliographical work by the various governments, and of home reading through the National Home Reading Union and like agencies, were also alluded to, and the speaker closed with an expression of "the love for and gratitude to books," which are felt by all who have to do with literature.

On conclusion of the address a vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Justin Winsor and seconded by the Earl of Crawford. The latter then assumed the chair, on request of Sir John Lubbock, who expressed regret that his presence was necessitated at a Parliamentary committee.

Dr. Richard Garnett's paper, which had been read the evening before at the social meeting, came next upon the program, and a word regarding it will not be out of place. Taking as his subject the beginning of printing by Europeans in the far east, Dr. Garnett gave an interesting review of the development of the art in India, China, and Corea — where printing from movable type had been in use for many centuries before Gutenberg — Japan, Africa, Australia, and Australasia. He described several of the earliest examples, and his paper was a notable contribution to the antiquarian bibliography of the subject.

Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, librarian of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, and hon. secretary of the L. A. U. K., after a few happy words of introduction, then presented a paper upon "Some tendencies of modern librarianship," in which he contrasted the librarian of to-day with his predecessor of 60 or even 20 years ago. "At the beginning of the queen's reign the average librarian was either a dry and uncommunicative scholar, or an uneducated person, a superannuated servant or other person incompetent for such work, for whom it was desired to find provision." But with all the advances in the equipment and qualifications of the librarian of to-day, it was to be feared that in some respects the tendencies of modern librarianship had been to emphasize practicality at the expense of scholarship. Mr. MacAlister's paper was essentially a challenge to the modern librarian to produce his warrant, and a demand that librarians improve their own qualifications to be the adviser of the reader and increase their knowledge of leading authorities on various subjects. The relative places of fiction and instructive reading were difficult to assign, but all sane persons loved good fiction, and he deprecated a narrow spirit of exclusion of novels in favor of what were thought instructive books. An interesting discussion followed, participated in by Dr. Garnett, F. M. Crunden, of the St. Louis Public Library, F. J. Barrett, of Glasgow, Herbert Jones, Sir William Bailey, W. C. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, and others, in which the usual divisional line between the friends of fiction and the advocates of solid literature was crossed and recrossed.

"The evolution of the public library" was then traced by Mr. H. R. Tedder, librarian of the Athenæum Club, and hon. treasurer of the L. A. U. K., in a paper that was a learned review of the library movement as part of the history of modern sociological development. He compared the characteristic features of ancient, mediæval, and modern public libraries, and pointed out existing survivals of ancient methods. The earliest librarians were priests, the earliest libraries temples, and this religious character was maintained after the fall of paganism in the monastic libraries which did so much to preserve the spark of learning through mediæval darkness. Mr. Tedder gave an interesting account of the development of college libraries and of cathedral libraries, that of Westminster being a type of the latter. It was not until the middle of the 18th century that the needs of the people at large were considered, as instanced by the Bodleian and Mazarin libraries, and it was only since 1850 that the educational significance of public libraries had gained recognition. In these were the real universities of the unattached student, and it should be remembered that though the library was a temple no longer, the librarian was still the priest of literature.

"The relation of the state to the public library" was the next subject, presented by Melvil Dewey, of the New York State Library, in a brilliant extempore address. Mr. Dewey spoke of the library of the past as a reservoir, that of the present as a fountain, and pleaded for the extension and control of libraries by the state in the same way and for the same reasons that public schools are extended and controlled. He made a strong plea for the filtration of the stream that issues from the library fountain, and spoke of the pernicious and ever-increasing influence of the sensational journalism of the day, urging that it was better not to teach a child to read at all than to give him such knowledge and let it lead him to mental and moral destruction. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Davies, of British Guiana, dissented from Mr. Dewey's condemnation of newspapers, and Mr. Avery, of Cleveland, O., pointed out that this condemnation had been applied only to

sensational journalism, which in Great Britain, as in the United States, was doing much to poison the minds of the people.

After a half-hour's adjournment for luncheon the second session was opened by Mr. Herbert Jones, librarian of the Kensington Public Libraries, who read a paper on "Public library authorities, their constitution and powers, as they are and as they should be." The present system, he thought, was characteristic of the happy-go-lucky methods common to the British people, and, though the results so far had been good, the time had come for reconstruction on a logical and uniform basis. He favored the appointment in each district of a distinct body of library authority, not too large, but varying according to the population, which should act along uniform and definite lines.

Alderman Rawson, of the Manchester Public Libraries committee, president of the L. A. U. K., continued the subject presented by Mr. Jones with a paper on "Duties of library committees." He spoke first of the work done in the libraries of Manchester, and of the enormous extension that they had undergone since the first one was founded in 1852. The duties of committees were then touched upon, first as to the engagement of officers and assistants, their working hours, salaries, and opportunities for study, and then as to the selection and purchase of books. The provision of special facilities for boys and girls, the relation of libraries to technical schools, and the value of co-operative work among the committees were described.

The personality and equipment of librarians was a subject considered in three successive papers. The first, by Charles Welch, chief librarian of the Guildhall, dealt with "The training of librarians," and urged the importance of a wide and liberal education as an indispensable part of a librarian's qualifications. There were three modes in which this training could be secured: (1) through the library itself, (2) through the general education supplied by self-culture or by a university career, and (3) through the bibliographical training to be acquired in the book trade. Of these three modes the first was undoubtedly the best, no training being equal to that obtained by actual practice, though the possession of a degree or the specific study of library economy were most useful adjuncts; but regular training for the profession of librarian was not likely to become general until the emoluments of librarians were more adequate than at present. Miss Hannah P. James, in a paper on "Special training for library work," said that special training for special work was nowadays becoming an acknowledged necessity. She described the beginning of this training under Mr. Dewey's guidance at Columbia College, and reviewed the work now being done in the United States, at Albany, at the Pratt Institute, the Armour and the Drexel library schools. "Female library assistants" was the subject of a paper by E. R. N. Mathews, librarian of the Public Libraries of Bristol, who had found the introduction of women as assistants into his libraries, made in 1876, a great success. He gave a brief résumé of the organization of the library force under his charge, described the competitive examination adopted for candidates, and expressed his belief in the general capability of women for library work. Mr. J. J. Ogle, of Bootle, Lancashire, followed with a short paper on "Hindrances to the training of efficient librarians," which he defined briefly as (1) deficient general education in the candidate, (2) insufficient leisure for study, (3) insufficient supply of technical literature, and (4) lack of financial incentive to ambition.

An interesting discussion ensued, in which the organization and methods of library committees were considered by Alderman Mandley, of Salford, Mr. King, of Aberdeen, and Alderman Gilbert, of Southampton; and the need and practicability of technical library training were discussed by Mr. Dewey, Mr. Tedder, and others.

Adjournment was then taken, and the rest of the afternoon was given up by most of the delegates to a visit to Sion College, Victoria Embankment. In the evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress held a reception in state at the Mansion House, which was attended by almost the entire conference, and by several of the Indian visitors then in London as Jubilee guests.

SECOND DAY.

The third session was opened on Wednesday morning, the Earl of Crawford again presiding. The first paper read was by Mr. F. M. Crunden, on "Books and text-books: the function of the library in education." Mr. Crunden began by answering the question, "What constitutes success?" as follows: "Success in life consists in making the most of oneself." Education was, of course, the most important means of attaining this end, but education as conducted in the schools to-day often fails to furnish the means it should supply. One cause of this failure, he thought, lay in the use of text-books in schools to the exclusion of other literature. He quoted Carlyle's dictum that "the true university is a collection of books," and urged the necessity of a system of secondary and primary instruction that shall regard all children as candidates for this university, and prepare them for it. "The desire to learn must first be awakened and then quickened and fed, not crushed by set tasks; and for this purpose the world of books must be opened to the child." The inadequacy of our educational system he attributed to three causes: (1) our failure to recognize practically, though we accept theoretically, the solidarity of the nation; (2) the narrow view of education as merely a preparation for making a living; and (3) disregard of the obvious fact that the vast majority of children leave school at 13, and therefore their schooling should have started them in the path of self-culture. He gave some personal experiences from his own early education, and told of what had been accomplished with a bright boy of 13 of his acquaintance.

A short discussion followed, in which the chairman, Lord Crawford, said that he be-

lieved it would be a very long time before Mr. Crunden's prophecies attained fulfilment. The child who possessed a wide range of knowledge at the age of 13 was not an ordinary child — at least not in the British Isles, although he might be in America — and it would be better for such a child to develop his body rather than to pass through a further course of study.

Mr. Sidney Lee, editor of the "Dictionary of national biography," read a paper on "National biography and national bibliography." He described the scope and purpose of the monumental work of which he is in charge, and which he defined as a biographical census of all dwellers in the British dominions who have achieved anything worthy of commemoration. The most notable feature in the preparation of the Dictionary was the effort to give authority for every fact recorded. The life of Shakespeare, for instance, would be practically useless were not the authenticity of each of the traditions which had accumulated about his name carefully determined. He had himself attempted on a modest scale a bibliography of Shakespeariana, arranged in the order in which the student of Shakespearian biography was likely to find it convenient to approach the books. His bibliography was far from complete; the catalogs of the British Museum Library, with its 3680 entries, the Barton collection in the Boston Public Library, with its 2500 entries, and the Birmingham Public Library, with 9640 volumes, all of which had been consulted in its preparation, supplied far longer lists of Shakespeariana; but he had endeavored to observe some logical principles of classification which the larger library catalogs did not attempt. After referring to the bibliographies of Milton, Sir Walter Scott, Dryden, and others, Mr. Lee said that all that was possible was to mention, generally in chronological order, the chief articles or memoirs concerning them. The Dictionary's list of authorities contained much that was material for the preparation of a subject catalog of literature, and a subject catalog was obviously of high importance in developing the utility of public libraries. The making of subject catalogs was a subsidiary branch of the science of bibliography. In its essence, bibliography was the science of describing books as books, in contradistinction to books as literature. For the literature of Great Britain and Ireland there existed at present four notable experiments in national bibliography. At the beginning of the century Robert Watt, a poor surgeon of Paisley, sacrificed 20 years of arduous labor in compiling his "Bibliotheca Britannica," an elaborate catalog, mainly of British literature, though a few foreign works were included, arranged in two indices — one of authors' names, the other of the titles of books. The next effort in national bibliography was made by William Thomas Lowndes, who in his "Bibliographers' manual," first published in 1834, endeavored to arrange the titles of books (under authors' names) with some regard to their intrinsic interest. Lowndes, after many years of abject poverty, lost his reason and died in 1843. The third great attempt at a bibliography of English literature was made in America, and it was to the credit of that great country that its history involved no distressing incidents like those that accompanied the efforts of Watt and Lowndes. This was Allibone's "Dictionary of English literature," projected in 1850, published in 1870, and later supplemented by the two volumes prepared by John Foster Kirk. The fourth great experiment in national bibliography was the printed British Museum catalog, which is a permanent memorial of the skill, knowledge, and industry of Dr. Garnett and his staff. He spoke of the proposed bibliographical index to the work, and paid fitting tributes to his predecessor as editor, Mr. Leslie Stephen, and to Mr. George Smith, the projector and publisher, who had contributed so much of his large fortune to this enterprise.

A discussion followed, participated in by Mr. George Smith, Mr. Davis, of British Guiana, Dr. Winsor, Mr. Tedder, and Mr. Barrett, all of whom referred to the great value and importance of the Dictionary as a contribution to English bibliography, and on motion of Dr. Winsor a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Lee and one to Mr. George Smith.

Continuing the general subject of bibliography, an excellent paper on the "Relations of bibliography and cataloging," by A. W. Pollard, secretary of the Bibliographical Society, was read by Mr. G. F. Barwick. The paper considered the various methods of arrangement of entries — as alphabetical, chronological under authors, or, for the earliest publications, by countries, towns, or printers — and pointed out that a catalog was intended primarily to describe a book in a particular library so as to enable a reader to identify it as the book he wants in the shortest and simplest manner. A bibliography, on the other hand, is designed to describe a book in its relations to other books, "either to other copies of the same edition, or to other editions of the same work, or to other works by the same author, or, again, to other works on the same subject, or, lastly, to other books printed by the same printer." In summing up his subject, Mr. Pollard said: "Let us keep clearly in our minds the fact that the aims and ideals of the bibliographer and the cataloger are by no means the same. As librarians, let us think of our readers and not of our hobbies."

In the discussion that followed, Mr. L. Stanley Jast, of Peterborough, made a plea for the entry of pseudonymous books under the pseudonym when that name was the one most familiar to the public; Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, emphasized the distinction that must exist between the work of the librarian and the bibliographer, and said that in the development of classification more had been done by Americans than by any other people; and some minor complexities of method of entry were pointed out by Mr. Weale, of South Kensington, and others. Dr. Winsor then took the chair.

"The alphabetical and classed forms of catalog compared" was the subject of a paper by Mr. F. T. Barrett, of the Mitchell Library,

Glasgow, who gave a cool and careful consideration of the question. His judgment favored the alphabetical catalog, especially in large libraries, and he thought that the special readers, who desired to know what a library contained in special lines of research and whose wants were often made the basis of an argument for classed catalogs, might be fully as well provided for by a good alphabetical catalog, which was of wider general usefulness. The chairman, Dr. Winsor, said that he long ago had come to the conclusion that a librarian should adopt that form of cataloging which best suited his own individuality. If, however, he adopted a classed catalog, he should also have an author index, and if he adopted an author catalog, he should also have a class index. But besides this he must have a proper subject index.

The next paper on the program was by Prof. C. Dziatzko, of the University Library of Göttingen, "On the aid lent by public bodies to the art of printing in the early days of typography." The earliest examples of public aid were found in the support given by municipal authorities to the early printers, Gutenberg, Sweynheym, Pannarts, and others; and the effect of state privileges and state interference in succeeding years was summarized. In the absence of Dr. Dziatzko, this paper was read by title, and the conference adjourned for luncheon.

Dr. Winsor presided during the first part of the afternoon session, which was opened by C. A. Cutter with a paper on "A classification and notation," in which he set forth concisely the characteristics of his Expansive classification, and touched upon the essentials of classification in general. The Expansive classification, he said, is composed of a series of seven tables of progressive fulness, designed to meet the needs of a library at its successive stages of growth, adding to the few classes of the first table more and more divisions till the seventh is minute enough for the British Museum. The 26 letters of the alphabet, used for the notation, enable him to mark with only two characters 676 classes, and with only three characters over 18,000. From this come elasticity, power to express the relations of subjects to one another and to their subordinate parts, and power of making intercalations of new subjects. The most characteristic feature is the use of figures to mark countries and letters for all other subjects, which makes it possible to express the local relations of any subject in a perfectly unmistakable way; the letter never being used to signify countries and the figures never being used for any other subject but countries. These local figures could obviously be applied to any subdivision, however small. It was also possible to arrange the books by countries first, and sub-arrange them afterwards by subjects. These points were explained by examples, and it was also shown how the different classes are made to correspond interchangeably.

The scheme of the classification followed the evolutionary idea throughout, its science proceeding from the molecular to the molar, from number and space through matter and force to matter and life, its botany from cryptogams to phanerogams; its zoölogy from protozoa to primates, ending with anthropology. Other examples were given of the systematic order of classes, particularly of such natural translations as putting *Bible* between Judaism and Christianity, *Church history* between theology and history, *Statistics* between geography and economics, *Music* between the recreative and the fine arts; it was claimed that these were not merely ingenuities pleasing only to their inventor but of practical value, since they answer the purpose of all classification by bringing together books which one might wish to see at the same time. Mr. Cutter's advice to the makers of classification schemes was "Be minute, be minute, be not too minute." The Expansive classification, while providing tables of extreme minuteness, in many cases advised, though it did not impose, broadness. An important principle was to divide when division is easy, and to avoid division where it was hard to comprehend the reasons for it, and difficult to see the differences between the subjects when separated.

"Classification in public libraries" was the subject of the next paper, presented by A. W. Robertson, of Aberdeen, who reviewed the various schemes in use and laid down the general rules that must guide the classifier. He had found that though at first a librarian might be satisfied with a broad and general classification, it would be necessary, as the library extended, to adopt a fuller and closer one, "that classification being determined by the books on the shelves and not by a theoretical tabulation of human knowledge."

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Ogle said that Mr. Cutter's classification was very little known in England, but that he felt that it appealed strongly to the English mind. He considered the section on medicine a masterpiece. The subject of movable and fixed location was discussed by Mr. Crunden and Mr. Barrett, and further remarks on intricacies of classification were made by Mr. Lane, of Boston, and Mr. W. H. Wesley, of the Royal Astronomical Society, London.

H. C. L. Anderson, of the Sydney (N. S. W.) Public Library, read a paper on "Library work in New South Wales," describing various Australian libraries, and speaking of the library conference held in Melbourne last year. Mr. F. M. Crunden then took the chair, and the last paper of the afternoon was read by Mr. W. H. J. Weale, librarian of the National Art Library, South Kensington Museum, whose subject was "History and cataloging of the National Art Library." He briefly sketched the history of the library from 1852, describing the re-arrangement and new system of cataloging introduced in 1890, and said that all articles on art that appeared in the magazines and weekly papers, as well as those printed by foreign societies, were now cataloged at the library.

Wednesday afternoon and evening were devoted, as were the afternoons and evenings of the days preceding and to follow, to the pleasures of sightseeing and hospitality. At the con-

clusion of the session the conference adjourned to a garden party, given in their honor by the Marchioness of Bute at St. John's Lodge, Regent's Park, and the evening was given up to the reception tendered the library visitors by Sir John and Lady Lubbock at their residence, 2 St. James square.

THIRD DAY.

On Thursday morning the fifth session was opened in the old council chamber at the Guildhall, the Earl of Crawford presiding, succeeded by Sir John Lubbock and Melvil Dewey. The first paper read was by Peter Cowell, of the Liverpool Public Libraries, on "Library work 40 years ago." Mr. Cowell exemplified the changes in library methods during that period by a review of his own experience in Liverpool, where nearly 44 years ago he issued the first book from one of the two lending libraries established in that city in 1853. Comparing the reading now with that of his earlier experience at Liverpool, Mr. Cowell thought that while elementary and other schools had certainly raised the general level of education, there were proportionately more earnest persevering and determined readers 40 years ago than at present. One reader read consecutively the whole of Rollin's "Ancient history," Alison's "Europe," Gibbon's "Rome," and Ranke's "Popes," and another the "Universal history," Gibbon, Macaulay, and Lingard; and there were others like them. Nowadays persistent steady reading like that was comparatively rare. Magazines, reviews, and journals, had to a great extent, particularly with commercial people, superseded books themselves. Mr. Cowell touched upon some of the special features of the work at Liverpool — the free lectures, circulation of music, issue of books for the blind, and the other departures which make his libraries among the most progressive and successful of Great Britain. Commenting on Mr. Cowell's paper, Mr. Curzon, of Leeds, spoke of the work being done in village libraries in Yorkshire, where the Union of Institutes, of which he is secretary, supplies 200 villages and 15,000 readers with books. Mr. Elliott, of the Belfast Public Library, said that the experiment of free lectures tried at the library with which he is connected had proved popular and successful.

"Public library architecture from the librarian's standpoint" was the subject of a short paper by F. J. Burgoyne, of the Lambeth Public Libraries, who urged that library utility rather than an artistic exterior should be the chief consideration. First, the site should be easily accessible and in a main thoroughfare; then the general plan should admit of extension, as books increase very rapidly. The rooms should not be too large, the cases not too high, the lighting should be well distributed. Special attention should be devoted to heating and ventilation. In the discussion, by Messrs. Crunden, Winsor, Tedder, Richardson, and Lucas, these last two points were mainly dwelt upon, the chairman, Lord Crawford, explaining the system in use at the Houses of Parliament.

Mr. Beresford Pite, F.R.I.B.A., later read his paper on "Library architecture from the architect's standpoint," in which he pointed out that the many public libraries recently erected in England had evolved an interesting type of plan for buildings of moderate size, varying with the requirements of site and locality, but economical, manageable, and useful. He pleaded that art quality and library convenience should go together, and showed photographs of the Laurentian library, Florence, in illustration. Commenting upon the paper, Sir Frederick Young observed that the main question in library architecture was, Are the books meant for the library, or is the library meant for the books? and Mr. Cowell spoke of the great help that the architect could give to the librarian, if the main purpose of the building was realized by him.

Children's reading was the next subject on the program. This was presented in two papers, and gave rise to an interesting discussion. Miss C. M. Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, spoke first on "Books that children like," in which she quoted comments made by the children themselves upon books read by them. She had found that children who have few books generally like fairy tales best, Andrew Lang's fairy books being prime favorites, and she named books in the various branches of fiction, history, biography, science, etc., in which children, by their own account, found pleasure and profit. A paper by Mr. J. C. Dana, on "Our youngest readers," was read by Mr. Ogle. In it Mr. Dana gave the results of the statistical investigations of school-children's reading recently undertaken in Denver (*see* L. J., April, p. 187), and urged the necessity of making teachers, and, if possible, parents, acquainted with the best books for young readers, and especially of bringing the library resources within the grasp of little children, and thus awakening in them a love of books.

The discussion of these papers was extended and animated. Sir William Bailey, speaking for Alderman Rawson, said that in Manchester there was a room for children that was filled nearly every night of the week. A similar room was recently established at the Chelsea (London) Public Libraries. In response to questions, Miss Sharp described the mode of establishing and conducting home libraries, and Mr. Wright, of Plymouth, described an arrangement made by his libraries with the school board, by which the schools of the district were supplied with a certain number of books for the children's use. The noon recess was then taken.

In the afternoon session the first paper listed was that of Mr. J. N. Larned, of Buffalo, N. Y., who was unable to attend the conference. It was on "Organization of co-operative work among public libraries," as to which he said that the possibilities of co-operative work among public libraries could be realized only by an organization that would provide for it a permanent editorial director, adequately salaried and devoting his whole attention to the work. Probably the best mode in which this might be accomplished was by the formation of a distinct international association for the purpose, while

the value of the work that could be done through such a body could hardly be overestimated. The special line of co-operation considered was that relating to the preparation and issue of indexes and bibliographic guides.

Mr. H. H. Langton, of the University of Toronto, followed with a paper on "Co-operation in the compilation of a catalog of periodicals," presenting the need of a single international catalog of the periodical publications of the world, exclusive of newspapers and literary magazines, and suggesting as the leading features of such a work a definite and limited scope, subject classification, and continuation by annual supplements.

At the conclusion of Mr. Langton's paper, Dr. B. Lundstedt, the delegate of the Swedish government, presented to the conference a copy of his great bibliography of Swedish periodical literature,* of which two volumes have so far been completed. The chairman, in acknowledging Dr. Lundstedt's gift, spoke of the bibliographical work being done by the Brussels Institut International de Bibliographie, and introduced M. Paul Otlet, secretary of the institute, who explained its aims and methods, and presented to the conference a set of its publications. M. Leopold Delisle, through M. H. Ormont, the delegate of the French government, also presented to the conference the first volume of the great printed catalog of the Bibliothèque Nationale, which will extend to 150 volumes when completed.

"Printed card catalogs in America" was the subject of a paper by Mr. C. W. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, who explained the preparation and the advantages of the printed cards used in the Boston Public Library, New York Public Library, Harvard University, and the John Crerar Library, and suggested their possible co-operative extension among libraries generally. In the discussion the use of linotype machines for library printing was brought up, and Mr. Putnam described their successful operation in the Boston Public Library. The work of the A. L. A. Publishing Section in issuing printed cards was briefly explained by Mr. Lane, who presented the report of the section made to the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A. Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, spoke on the need of securing government aid in co-operative bibliography, and Mr. Bowker referred to the important work in that direction that might be done in the United States through the reorganized Library of Congress.

The final paper of the session was read by Mr. Putnam, of the Boston Public library, on "Local library associations in the United States." He briefly described the scope and aims of the 25 local library associations in the United States, which with their 1985 members and their aggregate of 92 meetings a year were the most effective of all means for strengthening and extending the influence of the national association.

* Sveriges periodisk litteratur: bibliografi, 1645–1894. 3 v.

The members then adjourned for the usual round of entertainment, which comprised, for the rest of the afternoon, a visit to the library of Brook House, Park Lane, by invitation of Lord Tweedmouth, a visit to Apsley House, by invitation of the Duke of Wellington, and afternoon tea at Grosvenor House by invitation of the Duke of Westminster. In the evening the delegates attended the special performance of "The merchant of Venice," given in their honor at the Lyceum theatre, by Sir Henry Irving.

FOURTH DAY.

On Friday, the final day of the conference, after devoting the first hour to preparing for the instantaneous group photograph taken in front of the Guildhall,* the morning session was opened by the Earl of Crawford, who was later succeeeded in the chair by Alderman Harry Rawson and Sir John Lubbock. The first paper was on "Libraries of the northern states of Europe," by Andreas S. Steenberg, of Horsens, Denmark. These libraries are commonly of two distinct classes, scientific libraries, which are state libraries, and the libraries of the people, which are generally private institutions, the first being usually well supported and progressive, while the latter are far behind those of the English-speaking nations. He described briefly the chief libraries in these two classes, the most notable of the people's libraries being that of Helsingfors in Finland, from which 90,000 v. are issued yearly; next in importance come the libraries of the municipalities of Copenhagen (seven libraries), and the Bergen Town Library. These northern states have no library acts, no library buildings, no reading-rooms, and the libraries are open only a few hours weekly.

The next paper on the program was on "An indicator-catalog charging system," by Jacob Schwartz, of the Free Library of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, New York, and in Mr. Schwartz's absence it was summarized admirably by Mr. Cutter, who referred to it as claiming the advantages of both the English indicator system and the American slip method. A brief discussion developed the fact that a similar method was already in use in England.

The subject of free access was introduced in a paper contributed by W. H. Brett, of the Cleveland (O.) Public Library. It was entitled "Freedom in public libraries," and was a review of the advantages and disadvantages of open shelves, the former, in the writer's mind, much outweighing the latter. Mr. Brett emphasized the economy in service that resulted from the free-access system, and the great benefit it was to the public, instancing the libraries of Philadelphia, Cleveland, and other American cities to show the practicability of the method in larger libraries.

An animated discussion took place, in which much difference of opinion was manifest. Sir

* Copies can be had at 3*s.* 6*d.* each, by addressing Argent Archer, 195A, High st., Kensington, London, W.

William Bailey said that to his mind such a proposal was simply a plea for anarchy. Mr. C. Madeley thought that this was pre-eminently an open question. His rule was "liberty with discretion," and he had found it possible to give liberty to nine-tenths of his readers in such a way that they did not know there were any restrictions. The Public Library of Clerkenwell, he thought, proved that the plan of free access could be thoroughly successful. Alderman Southern believed that free access, while generally desirable, was often impracticable, as to introduce the system many libraries would have to be reconstructed. Mr. Bradshaw, of Nottingham, said that in his library open shelves had resulted in the loss of many books, and that it had proved absolutely necessary to have the shelves controlled by assistants; the library had recently been altered, so that now the lending-room was wholly controlled by the counter. He thought that with a library properly designed for the purpose, free access could easily be carried out. Other speakers on the subject were Mr. Davis, of British Guiana, Mr. F. H. Jones, Mr. Putnam, Mr. Jast, and Mr. Doubleday.

"A hint in cataloging" was the title of a short paper by F. Blake Crofton, of the Legislative Library of Halifax, Nova Scotia, which proved to be an elaborate description of what he called an autobiographical dictionary, which he said he classified under "Wit and humor." Mr. E. A. Petherick, of London, discussed "Theoretical and practical bibliography," urging the preparation of catalogs in accordance with (*a*) the requirements of readers, (*b*) the character and (*c*) the extent of the collection, and (*d*) with a view to permanence. Mr. R. R. Bowker followed with a paper on "Bibliographical endeavors in America," in which he summarized the various efforts toward a national bibliography in the United States, from the little "Catalogue of all the books printed in the United States" of 1804 to the "American Catalogue" of the present period.

The afternoon session opened with a "Description of the more important libraries in Montreal, with some remarks upon departmental libraries," by C. H. Gould, of McGill University Library, Montreal, who gave an interesting historical sketch of the chief Montreal libraries, and offered some excellent suggestions for the administration of department libraries. Ernest C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton University, was not present; but his paper on "Libraries as the prime factor in human evolution" showed how, as by language concepts are transferred ready formed from one individual to another and ideas are built up as though from individual sense-impressions, so, by books, the built-up experiences of former generations and foreign thinkers are added to the mental equipment of the individual. Thus the library becomes the chief factor in the development of the mind, and the greatest instrument in human evolution, and it is in its growth and administration to meet its opportunities that lie the only potentialities for future progress.

Mr. John Thorburn, of the Geological Survey of Canada, had a paper on "Counting and time-recording," in which he reviewed the various methods of counting adopted by different nations, describing the limited range of the use of numbers prior to the introduction of the Arabic numerals, the varying ways in which dates have been given and recorded in ancient and modern times, and the curious methods of dating documents practised in Scotland and France as late as the 18th century.

In the absence of Mr. George Iles, his paper on "Expert appraisal of literature" was submitted as printed and distributed; it gave a clear and interesting account of his proposals for the "evaluation" of books. Mr. Frank Cundall, of the Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, W. I., described "Library work in Jamaica," in an interesting paper, that touched upon West Indian libraries in general, and gave practical hints on details of library management in tropical climates. He explained that the bookworm and the cockroach were the worst enemies to books in the West Indies, though the "fishmoth" and the white ant were also to be feared, and he said that books intended for use in the tropics should be bound with poisoned paste and glue.

This was the last paper of the program, and votes of thanks, expressions of international amity, and acknowledgment of the brilliant welcome and lavish hospitality with which the visitors had been greeted were the next order of the day. Alderman Rawson, in a few closing words, referred to the pleasure it had afforded the L. A. U. K. to greet so many colonials and friends from distant countries. Prof. Comm. Guido Biagi, the delegate from Italy, begged to express his appreciation of the important results of the meeting and the kindness and hospitality with which the visitors had been received. He was followed by Mr. Steenberg and Mr. Lundstedt in a similar vein, and these thanks of the foreign delegates were briefly acknowledged by the chairman. Mr. Dewey returned thanks in the name of the Americans, Mr. Langton for the colonies, Mr. Enjiro Yamaza spoke for Japan. Votes of thanks were passed to Sir John Lubbock, to the various vice-presidents who had occupied the chair, to the Lord Mayor and corporation for allowing the use of the Guildhall as a meeting-place, to the generous hosts whose hospitality had been so warmly extended, and to the reception committee. Thus, in all good fellowship and kindliness, the second International Library Conference came to an end, having added another and an enduring link to the chain of common aims and common interests that binds together library workers the world over.

There still remained an aftermath of sight-seeing and entertainment. In the afternoon library parties visited Lambeth Palace and its library; Stafford House, by invitation of the Duke of Sutherland; and Apsley House, which had been the goal of a previous party on the day before. In the evening the Hotel Cecil was the scene of the brilliant conference dinner, attended by over 300 of the delegates and their friends, the crown and finish of the London meeting.

## SOCIAL AND TRAVEL FEATURES OF THE CONFERENCE.

### THE VOYAGE.

On the beautiful afternoon of June 26 the library party, comprising 47 persons, including librarians and their companions, left East Boston in the Cunard steamer *Cephalonia*, amid the cheering of hundreds of friends and kindred who waved a *bon voyage*. The weather was exceptionally fine for several days, the company was harmonious and agreeable, and on Wednesday evening a meeting of the A. L. A. party was called in the music-room. The list was read, and each one responded by rising in turn. The boat proved so steady that but few were inclined to meditate on the uncertainty of all things in particular, and the instability of water in general; and the days passed swiftly and pleasantly in social talk, shop talk, and the discovery that each one knew some mutual friend of others, and that "the world is a very small place." On July 3 a meeting of all passengers was called to consider the propriety of celebrating the glorious Fourth. Prof. A. S. Hill presided, and a committee was chosen to take charge of the evening program, which was to be of a literary nature, and another to superintend the games to be provided for the Monday's entertainment. The evening passed pleasantly with recitations of selections and original poems, introduced very wittily by the chairman, Rev. T. F. Wright, of Cambridge, Mass.

On the morning of the Fourth there was a suspicious quiet aboard which boded little good, and the news soon spread that the shaft was bent and that the engines had stopped at half-past five; that the boat was drifting slowly to northward, and must wait till some benevolent Samaritan came to her aid. Soon after 7 a.m. a steamer was seen on the horizon, which was signalled and tooted to in vain. She "went by on the other side." Meantime the wind blew freshly from the south, and all wondered "How long?"

Each one laid in what store of patience he could command, when about 3 p.m. the boatswain's whistle gave the joyful signal that a steamer was in sight, and in a few moments she turned and came swiftly towards the *Cephalonia*. What a relief it was when the signals exchanged told that the steamer *Floridian*, from the West Indies and bound to Liverpool, would take the *Cephalonia* in tow to Queenstown. The quiet endurance of the morning at once changed into the gladness of hope, and the whole aspect of things wore a different hue. A more grateful company could hardly have been found the world over, and all felt once more in a cheerful mood — and ready to celebrate the next day. True, the party would not be in time to partake of the festivities awaiting them in Liverpool and Manchester, for Thursday was the very earliest time that could be made, as the steamer could hope to go not more than from four to six miles an hour, and was 400 miles away. But all were safe, and happy. On Monday the second part of the celebration took place, and was very entertaining.

Wednesday it was announced that the steamer would reach Queenstown at night, and she did so after a day of perfect beauty off the coast of Ireland. Time fails to tell of the sail up the beautiful harbor of Queenstown, the miseries of the midnight scramble for trunks at the customs house, the night journey to Dublin, when the day began to dawn at midnight, the crossing of the Irish Sea, and the ride through Wales and the arrival at Birmingham Thursday afternoon. 36 hours of wakefulness sent all early to bed, and when the anxious predecessors arrived late to greet their fellows not a librarian was in sight, and their congratulations had to wait until Friday morning, when at last the reunited brethren and sisters exchanged glad greetings.

### THE WELCOME AND THE WAITING — LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, in the person of the ever-genial Peter Cowell, stood ready with open arms to give first welcome to the library pilgrims from America, and great was the sorrow when Tuesday, July 7, arrived, and the pilgrims did not arrive. Mr. Lane, chairman of the travel committee, accompanied by his mother, Mr. and Mrs. Utley, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. Gould, of Montreal, Mr. Eakins, of Toronto, and Rev. Mr. Gillies, chairman of the library committee of Kingston, Jamaica, W. I., were the only American representatives at Liverpool, and, with Mr. Bowker, who reached Wigan the next day from London, these few were obliged to drop all sense of humility and try to expand themselves into representing the 50 who had not arrived, and — all America! It was noted, however, that the party did represent remarkably the widespread distribution of library development in America. Mr. Cowell did his best to cause the little company to forget their anxiety about their fellow-countrymen, showing them about his library, noted everywhere for its large success, and making everything in Liverpool open to them, and in the evening the formal hospitalities of the pre-conference program began with a *conversazione* tendered by the Library, museum, arts, and technical instruction committee of the Liverpool Council. The magnificent rooms of the superb building in which the culture-features, so to speak, of Liverpool, are housed, were thrown fully open, and were thronged with nearly 700 of Liverpool's most representative men and women, gathered to greet the American party, if not with the Americans themselves. Sir William B. Forwood, chairman of the committee, and Miss Forwood, received the visitors in the upper vestibule of the Walker Art Gallery, supported by the members of his committee, and Mr. Cowell, as host, was supported also by Mr. Charles Dyall, curator of the art gallery, and Dr. Forbes, director of the museum. In the Picton reading-room the Probyn Ladies Sextet discoursed instrumental and the Minster Vocal Quartet vocal music, and in one of the art gallery rooms the Liverpool Constabulary Band played. The would-be welcome was altogether a delightful one, though the regrets over the absentees were widely and sincerely expressed.

WIGAN AND HAIGH HALL.

On Wednesday morning, July 7, the little party, accompanied by Sir William Forwood, Mr. Cowell, and other English friends, made the pleasant run by rail to Wigan, and were relieved to have news that the absentees, after a Fourth-of-July accident off the Irish coast, had suffered no harm and little anxiety, had been reported at Queenstown, and were nearing that harbor of refuge in friendly tow. At Wigan, the interesting Free Library and its separate building for the Boys' Reading Room were first visited, under guidance of Mr. Folkard, the librarian, and thence the visitors made the pleasant journey, two miles out, to Haigh Hall. Not only had the lovely grounds (from which could be seen the church of Standish, whence came the doughty Captain Miles) and the beautiful house, Haigh Hall, been thrown open by the Earl of Crawford — who came down from the London season especially to receive his visitors — but a remarkable selection of over 500 manuscripts of all ages and countries, rare books, proclamations, and rich bindings (especially of the inlaid metal ones, in which Lord Crawford's collection is so rich), had been laid out in the rooms, numbered, and cataloged, by Mr. J. P. Edmond, Lord Crawford's librarian, in an admirable printed catalog dedicated to the American librarians. Special care had been taken to show things relating to America or to the English forefathers. This was a surprising foretaste, quite overwhelming to the visitors, of the lavish hospitality in store for the pre-conference party. The guests were welcomed by Mr. Lindsay, one of the younger sons of the house, who presented them to his father, and after an hour or two spent in inspecting the treasures, Lord Crawford pointing out here and there special matters of interest, the large party, including the mayor and many citizens of Wigan, were ushered to the large marquee on the lawn, where, as soon as the guests were seated, a delightful luncheon was served.

After luncheon, Lord Crawford gave the toasts, first of the Queen, then of the President of the United States, then of his American guests, bidding them heartily welcome, expressing his keen regret at the enforced absence on the choppy seas of so many of his hoped-for guests, and coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Lane, who responded pleasantly. Sir William Forwood proposed, and Mr. Bowker, for the Americans seconded, the health of the host; the former referring regretfully to the proposed increase of "death duties" which might discourage private collections hereafter; the latter emphasizing the fact that official misunderstandings could not lessen the real knitting together of "kin across sea," which was so much strengthened by such kindnesses as these hospitalities, referring to Lord Crawford's great services as a trustee of the British Museum and as a promoter of scientific and industrial progress in England, and coupling with the Earl's health that of Mr. Lindsay and the family of Haigh Hall.

Lord Crawford, in returning thanks, gave a brief history of the Haigh Hall collection, begun in the 14th century, promoted by the literary interest of the family (illustrated in Lady Anne Lindsay, whose ms. of "Auld Robin Gray" was among the exhibits), but made chiefly by his father, who had begun the larger collection with the purpose that whatever might be the taste or interest of any future head of the house, he might find a nucleus of books on his special subject in the general collection. While specializing the library in manuscripts and on other lines, he had kept the general purpose in view, and he was glad to say that his eldest son continued the interest in books. As to the "death duties," he hoped the representations already made to the ministry might have their effect in preventing legislation which might compel heirs of such collections to disperse them.

MANCHESTER.

From Wigan, in the late afternoon, the party went on to Manchester, where again everything was made ready for them with wonderfully thoughtful and complete organization of details. There was a printed time-table for the visitors' busy hours; descriptive "Notes on Manchester institutions visited by the American delegates" had also been specially prepared, and the visitors were driven from point to point under personal guidance, and at each place the official head was waiting to give welcome and a brief address of explanation. Consequently, the Americans, here as afterward, saw and heard as much in one day as most visitors in three. Wednesday evening the Lord Mayor and his daughter, Miss Roberts, had asked leading Manchester citizens, men and women, to greet the visitors in the noble town hall, where they enjoyed the wall pictures of Madox-Brown, the charming concerts given severally by the vocalists of the evening, by the city organist on the great organ, and by the Manchester City Police Band; the banquet which was spread during the evening, and above all the warm personal welcome given by the Lord Mayor, still young in heart and action at the age of 79. To each of the Americans present he expressed his regrets for the wanderers and asked to have this feeling of all Manchester reported to them on their arrival.

Thursday, July 8, was a hard-working day, filled with pleasures. The American visitors, with a number of English librarians and Manchester people, met first at an informal reception at ten o'clock at the Free Reference Library, occupying the old town hall in King street, where Alderman Southern, the efficient chairman of the free libraries committee, Alderman Hoy, the enterprising chairman of the technical instruction committee, with their colleagues, and Mr. C. W. Sutton, chief librarian, to whom the visitors owed the great part of their pleasures, gave cordial welcome. Mr. Southern outlined to some of his guests the fine plans Manchester was discussing for the future of the library in new quarters. The crowded shelves, and the astonishing ladders, reaching in default of galleries, nearly to the top of the

18-foot room, testified to the necessity for removal. Thence the party took conveyances to the superb new building erecting, in cathedral style and with all the solidity and artistic detail of an old cathedral, by Mrs. John Rylands, to house the magnificent collection of books, including the Althorp collection purchased from Earl Spencer, which is to be her memorial to her husband, the eminent manufacturer and merchant. The building, from the designs of Mr. Champneys, with rich scholastic ornamentation and a noble window figuring the great scholars of all ages (including the American Jonathan Edwards), will be ready a year or so hence to receive the 60,000 and more volumes already collected — a great scholars' library. Mrs. Rylands, being absent on the continent, Mr. W. Linnell and Mr. W. Carnelley, partners in the Rylands house, and Mrs. Rylands' advisers in this noble memorial, conducted the visitors through the building, Mr. Carnelley making a brief speech of explanation and Mr. Bowker expressing for the American visitors their appreciation of the fine thought of Mrs. Rylands in making this shrine for books so worthy a memorial. At the ancient Chetham Hospital and Library the Dean of Manchester and Archdeacon Anson, on behalf of the feofees, welcomed the party, who returned thanks through Mr. Lane; and the governor, Mr. W. T. Browne, made the tour of the old, old buildings, pointing out the many features of interest. Thence the party returned to the new town hall, where the two committees had provided a bounteous luncheon, Alderman Southern occupying the chair with the Lord Mayor on his right, and Alderman Hoy with the ladies of the American delegation on the other hand. After the toast to the Queen from the chairman, Mr. Hoy proposed the health of the visitors in a most felicitous speech, in which he referred gracefully to the common heritage of the two countries, and Mr. Eakins, of Toronto, responded for the Americans, referring incidentally to the loyalty of Canada to the mother country. The Dean of Manchester very wittily proposed the health of the Lord Mayor, Dr. Ward toasted the chairman, and Sir William Bailey gallantly gave the health of the ladies, to which Mrs. Rawson gave a pleasant word of response.

Under the guidance of Alderman Hoy, the visitors next inspected the spacious but yet incomplete building for the Municipal Technical School, in preparation for which he or others of his committee had personally visited most of the like institutions in England and elsewhere. They then drove to Owens College, where Principal Ward gave a succinct account of the development of the college and of its library, soon to be housed in the new Christie Library building, the gift of ex-Chancellor Christie; and Prof. Boyd-Dawkins, head of the Manchester Museum, connected with the college, in defining and describing the museum, expressed his indebtedness to American museums for many of the ideas therein embodied. These courtesies were acknowledged by Rev. Mr. Gillies, of Jamaica, W. I., for the American visitors, responding to Alderman Thompson's pleasant word. The day ended with a cordial welcome to the remarkable Tudor exhibition at the City Art Gallery, where Councillor Pythian acted as host, and where afternoon tea was served, and in the evening the little delegation went on to Birmingham, there to meet the long-delayed "Cephalonians."

THE REUNION — BIRMINGHAM.

Friday, July 9, found all united in the hospitable town of Birmingham, where again most careful preparations had been arranged to make the most of the day. The printed time-table included also a brief list of books relating to Birmingham, prepared by Mr. Charles E. Scarse, local hon. sec. of the L. A. U. K., to whom the visitors were largely indebted for the success of the day.

The visitors gathered at the Central Free Library, where that veteran among librarians, J. D. Mullins, active in mind though enfeebled in body, shook hands with as many of the guests as his strength permitted. The noble building and its worthy contents, especially the Shakespeare library, were inspected with great pleasure, under the guidance of Councillor Charles Green and the sub-librarian, Mr. A. C. Shaw. Thence many of the visitors diverged from the regular program for a brief call at the old Birmingham Library, a proprietary library more than a century old, presided over by Mr. Scarse, where they were especially interested in the proprietors' rooms — a sort of club feature — and in the dust-extractor, working by suction, upon which some keen eyes lighted. The Birmingham Midland Institute, one of the great originating centres of public education in England, was next visited, under the guidance of Treasurer Matthews and Councillor Martineau. At noon a reception was held by the Lord Mayor, James Smith, Esq., in the fine rooms of the council house, and a pleasant luncheon was served, at which Alderman Fallows and others of the Council, U. S. Consul G. F. Parker, and many others were present. The Lord Mayor, speaking especially to the newly-arrived party, emphasized the appropriateness of visiting first the county of Warwickshire, the birthplace of Shakespeare and George Eliot, and said that there was no part of Birmingham's municipal life more fully appreciated and more cheerfully supported by the people than the free libraries. He hoped America and England would continue to go hand in hand; the readers of both enjoyed the same books, and gave librarians the same trouble and anxiety. Mr. Crunden gracefully returned thanks for the visitors.

In the afternoon the Municipal School of Art was first visited, and then Mason College and Library. The visitors next found their way to the remarkable building of the Municipal Technical School, where brief addresses of explanation were made by Councillor Martineau and Principal Sumpner, after which the interesting practical features of the school received careful inspection. Some of the visitors found their way to the great town hall which had so

often echoed to the voices of John Bright and his fellows. At five o'clock, at the invitation of President Windle and the committee of the Birmingham Library, all gathered at the Grand Hotel for "tea," which proved to be a bountiful supper. Dr. Windle, presiding, offered the guests welcome on behalf of one of the oldest libraries of its kind in the kingdom, founded by the distinguished Dr. Priestley. Mr. Crunden, replying, said that Americans looked with pride upon the triumphs of England, and, as a matter of reciprocity, the mother-country should take credit for whatever the children did. Dr. Nolan, of Philadelphia, seconded his remarks, and Mr. Bowker, speaking for the visitors, gave the toast of the Queen, which was seconded by all joining in the national anthem. Consul Parker, who has done excellent service in Birmingham as a literary as well as an official representative, also spoke. Mr. Andrews, of Chicago, proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Windle and the committee, and Mr. J. Thackeray Bunce, of the committee, spoke pleasantly, saying that Englishman envied the magnificent way in which the United States had founded state and other libraries. He added that nowhere in England were Americans more welcome than in Birmingham, referring especially to Holmes, Lowell, and Bayard Taylor. Whatever some people might try to make out, we were one nation once and we are one nation at heart now.

In the evening some of the party visited Consul Parker at his home, and others drove to one of the charming historic houses of the vicinity, to which a cordial invitation had been given.

IN THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTRY.

On Saturday morning, July 10, the visitors started by an early train for Kenilworth, where, after visiting the lovely ruins, so associated in library minds with Sir Walter Scott, coaches were taken for that most delightful of drives past Guy's Cliff and the old mill to Warwick Castle, where the house and gardens were fully enjoyed, and through Warwick to the home of Shakespeare, Mr. Chivers having most wisely rearranged the plans so as to spend Sunday at Stratford instead of at Leamington. A visit was made in the late afternoon to the Shakespeare birth-house, after which Mrs. Charles Flower exemplified the hospitality and generosity associated in Stratford with that name by a charming afternoon tea and garden-party at her delightful residence close by. Thence the party passed on to the Memorial Building, where they were formally welcomed by the Mayor and shown through the gallery and library.

On Sunday morning many of the party drove and others walked to Ann Hathaway's cottage at Shottery, and there was a general gathering at the morning service in Shakespeare's church, the picturesque Holy Trinity by the riverside, where his bones lie undisturbed. The Bishop of Cairo, Ill., preached the sermon, and after the service called the American party together at the chancel and held the simple service of thanksgiving for their escape from the dangers of the great deep.

It is a fitting rule of Vicar Arbuthnot that sightseeing shall not be permitted on Sunday, but in view of this visit of American librarians he not only allowed an exception to the rule, but himself guided the party through the church and gave a most interesting series of talks here and there, covering all the features of interest. Particularly the visitors were interested in the modern stained-glass window which is to commemorate the church-relationship and the book-relationship of England and America, and it is hoped by the visiting party that it may be practicable to arrange through librarians for completing the American panels which are yet to be filled. Afterwards the visitors, guided by Mr. and Mrs. Ward, were shown through King Edward's School, where Shakespeare was a pupil, and the old Guildhall, in which the lad probably saw his first play, the headmaster, as host, giving a most informing and entertaining talk. After dinner and an hour of rest, the visitors drove out to Clopton Hall, an interesting old mansion, where Sir Arthur Hodgson received them courteously, and had them shown through the house and grounds. Some of the party enjoyed at sunset, under the guidance of Mr. Richard Savage, the bibliographer of Shakespeare and custodian of the library, a walk to "the bank where the wild thyme grows," while others sought rest in what remained of a busy Sunday. In the morning, after a second visit to the Memorial Building, the pilgrims journeyed to London, where most of the party found the quarters assigned to them in the Inns of Court Hotel, their headquarters during the conference.

LONDON — THE GUILDHALL RECEPTION.

The international conference was fittingly prefaced by a reception at the Guildhall of the City of London, where for the first time the English hosts, the American visitors, and the representatives from the colonies and from other countries first had opportunity of making one another's acquaintance, the Guildhall being at once the centre of civic government and of art and literature for the city of London. In the necessary absence of Sir John Lubbock, the visitors were received by Dr. Richard Garnett, as president of the Bibliographical Society and representative of the L. A. U. K. committee, and after his informal welcome took their choice among the "triple bill" of entertainments provided for them. Many found their way to the Guildhall library, where the feature of the evening was Dr. Garnett's interesting paper on "The introduction of European printing in the east," read here instead of in the conference session, but summarized elsewhere at its place on the regular program. Others enjoyed the vocal music in the reception hall, or the extraordinary variety entertainment provided by the Savage Club, whose members, impressing Lord Crawford into the chair, told stories or sang songs to a throng which overflowed the modern and beautiful rotunda of the council room. Still others accepted the hospitality of the wonderful Victorian exhibit of paintings, shown in the Guildhall art gal-

leries, an exhibition already visited at that time by over 200,000 people; or looked over the various library exhibits which were shown in the Guildhall proper, with the dim forms of Gog and Magog presiding from above. With literature, music, and art, a pleasant evening was quickly passed, and though the attractions were too various and absorbing for much new personal acquaintanceship, many greetings were exchanged among old friends, and it was agreed that the social opening of the conference was most auspicious.

LONDON FESTIVITIES.

The opening of the conference is described elsewhere, but a word should be said as to the interesting place of meeting. By courtesy of the Lord Mayor and the committee of the council, Guildhall was practically given up to the conference during most of the week. Except during one day, on which the council itself met in its chamber, the meetings were held in the noble rotunda, which had been built of recent years as a worthy home for the civic court of the greatest city in the world. The circular rows of seats, with their ingenious desk devices, worthy of the Library Bureau, brought the audience into close touch with the readers and speakers, and every one present felt the inspiration of the noble hall. There was seating room for about 500 people. At the first session the place was more than crowded, and thereafter there was a good attendance throughout. On one day the meeting was held in the former council chamber, where the old-fashioned arrangements were in curious contrast with the new hall, and here accommodations were rather lacking for the large attendance. Arrangement had been made for the service of luncheon each day, at moderate prices, in the room below the council chamber; a writing-room was provided for the delegates; the efficient secretaries and assistant secretaries were always ready to answer all manner of questions and do all sorts of pleasant things at their headquarters in the library; and altogether nothing was left undone for the comfort and convenience of the visitors. The felicitous and humorous remarks of the Lord Mayor, the excellent address of Sir John Lubbock, the happily-phrased remarks of Mr. MacAlister, and other incidents at the start, gave excellent tone for the meeting, and, happily, the first paper led to a discussion in which so many took part that the ice was at once broke and the standard was set for the discussions thereafter. Each day the conference kept at work pretty steadily from early in the morning until four in the afternoon, except that many of the visitors could not resist taking advantage of their first opportunity to see the sights of London.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, July 13, a reception was given at Sion College, on the Victoria Embankment, where the ancient library which is really the college, in its noble hall, was shown and some of its treasures displayed by the librarians, Rev. W. H. Milman and Mr. Guffy, who had prepared a special catalog for the exhibit, while a pleasant program of vocal music was given in the rooms below, with afternoon tea conveniently adjacent. In the evening one of the grand functions of London was given in the Mansion House, where the Lord Mayor, in his robes, attended by the Mace- and Sword-bearers, received the visitors in state, and where they were entertained afterwards by an orchestral concert, by vocal music, and by a collation.

Wednesday afternoon was notable for the charming garden-party given by the Marchioness of Bute, in the lovely gardens of St. James' Lodge, in the inner circle of Regent's Park. The beautiful house was thrown open to visitors, and after receiving her guests on the lawn the Marchioness had provided a fine orchestral entertainment on the terrace, with the ever-present afternoon tea and "light refreshments." Situated in the heart of the great expanse of Regent's Park, this estate, leased from the crown, combines the advantages and beauties of city and country, and perhaps no feature of the week's entertainment was more enjoyed by the guests. In the evening Sir John and Lady Lubbock gave a reception in their town house on St. James' Square, and their spacious and pleasant rooms were thronged from 10 o'clock till midnight.

Thursday afternoon was given up to visits to the great houses of London, which had thrown their doors wide open for the guests of the week. The first visit of most of the party was at Brook House, Park Lane, where Lord and Lady Tweedmouth were ready to receive them and to show the treasures of the interesting collection of books there gathered, the chief of which were spread out for ready inspection. After that came the Duke of Westminster's town residence, Grosvenor House, in Upper Grosvenor street, where the wonderful collection of pictures, Gainsborough's "Blue boy," the well-known Rembrandts, etc., and the charming rooms were enjoyed to the full, and where also a bounteous collation was served. The afternoon was rounded out by a visit to Apsley House, Piccadilly, the home of the Duke of Wellington, where the visitors were shown the museum-room, which contains the wonderful collections of orders, swords, etc., of the great founder of the house, and where they shuffled through the grand salons, to their amusement and edification, in the felt slippers provided for visitors.

In the evening 500 guests enjoyed the unparalleled hospitality of Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum theatre. Sir Henry had not only put his theatre practically at the service of the committee of the conference, assigning for the use of its members 500 of the best seats in the house, the entire dress portion, but he had for the evening replaced "Madame Sans-Gêne," which had been running throughout the season, with one of his great Shakespearian productions, fittingly selecting "The merchant of Venice" for the purpose. The library party thoroughly appreciated this compliment, with all that it meant, and no hospitality in the whole series of events called forth more universal and hearty expressions of indebtedness.

Under the inspiration of their own hospitality and in the presence of so many literary guests Sir Henry Irving and his associate, Miss Terry, in the parts of *Shylock* and of *Portia*, acted at their best, and the whole company was moved with the same spirit. During the play a wreath was presented by the visitors to Miss Terry, as the queen of the dramatic profession, and at the close of the play a number, at the invitation of Sir Henry, met him in the green-room and took advantage of the occasion to present their thanks for the party.

Friday afternoon the most interesting feature was the visit to Lambeth Palace and its ancient library across the Thames, where every one was delighted to enjoy the odor of sanctity and of antiquity associated with the old palace, and profited by the interesting explanatory talk made by the librarian in the chapel of so many memories. Some visited the Duke of Sutherland's town residence, Stafford House, St. James, and others who had not been at Apsley House the previous day took occasion to accept the generous invitation of the Duke of Westminster, which extended over both afternoons. But many were forced to deny themselves these later opportunities in their desire not to miss the opening of the conference dinner.

This took place Friday evening in one of the grand banqueting-rooms of the new Hotel Cecil, which claims to be the largest as well as the most sumptuous hotel in the world. The *menu* design was from the pencil of Mr. Herbert Jones, of the Guildhall Library, and represented a bookshelf corner in which stood a library nymph writing place and date on a scroll — rather larger than the standard L. B. card. Below was a great folio, upon which was a vignette of London and the title-page, "The Second International Library Conference, London, 1897." Above were the shields of the United States and Great Britain, with the motto:

"With heed to these the wise man looks—
His wife, his dinner, and his books."

During the evening an interesting program of music was played by the band of the Royal Artillery. Sir John Lubbock presided, and gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales and the royal family," and "The Right Hon. Lord Mayor and the Corporation"; the latter being replied to by Charles Welch, librarian of the Guildhall Library, in a bright speech. Dr. Garnett proposed the health of "The ladies and gentlemen who have entertained the conference," emphasizing especially the unprecedented generosity of Sir Henry Irving, and a response was made in a most clever and witty speech by Bram Stoker, Sir Henry's manager and personal representative, who has also, as a novelist, close relations with book people. The Earl of Crawford proposed the health of "The president of the conference," in a simple and fitting speech, to which Sir John Lubbock responded, expressing his great pleasure in, and indebtedness for, the opportunity of presiding over so remarkable a gathering. Mr. Tedder gave the toast of "The American Library Association" in a pleasant speech, mentioning many of the leading American visitors by name, and Mr. Dewey made a happy response. The health of "The foreign delegates" was proposed by Mr. MacAlister in graceful phrase, and was responded to in English by Prof. Comm. Guido Biagi, of Italy, who aroused great enthusiasm by his few but inspiring words. Dr. Winsor, as president of the American Library Association, proposed the toast of "The Library Association of the United Kingdom," to which Alderman Rawson, of Manchester, president of the L. A. U. K., made pleasant response, and "The Executive Committee of the conference" was toasted by Sir William Bailey in one of his witty speeches, and called forth responses from Mr. Borrajo and Mr. Herbert Jones. To Mr. Crunden fell the graceful duty of proposing the health of "The ladies," which he did in a pleasing speech, that was also a farewell to the London hosts, and in reply Miss Hewins made a charming little talk, saying that, like the little girl who, when asked her age, said that she was six years old, but judging from the good times she'd had she must be a hundred, the visitors felt as though they had spent not a week in London, but many months. She then yielded the floor to Miss James, who, as vice-president of the American Library Association, should make the response, although she had endeavored to evade the responsibility. Miss James, thus called to her feet, made a happy extemporaneous response, which called forth fresh expressions of delight in the ready speech of the American women representatives, and after a volunteered speech from another speaker, who rose to the occasion, the delightful dinner came to an end.

There were a few enterprising spirits left among the American men who had still the vitality to accept an invitation from the Savage Club, where they were entertained with song and story and helped in turn to entertain until the small hours of Saturday morning.

THE POST-CONFERENCE TRIP — SALISBURY.

There was no rest for the unwearied, and although two or more had succumbed after the exercises of the week and remained in London, over 50 of the Americans, with Sir William Windeyer, of Australia, and a few other visitors, but unfortunately no English library people except Mr. Chivers, the guide, philosopher, and friend of the party, started at 11 o'clock Saturday morning for the West of England trip.

They reached Salisbury shortly before one, and were astonished at the interest shown by the populace in their arrival, an astonishment that was not solved until the real circus passed through the streets in gorgeous procession, to the equal delight of the townspeople and the visitors. After a hasty 10 minutes at the hotel the visitors found their way to the council chambers in the town hall, where the mayor and his associated councillors, in their gorgeous robes of office, were waiting to receive them. After the formal hand-shaking the officials, with great alacrity, doffed their robes of office and appeared, with much relief to

themselves, as ordinary citizens. Luncheon was served in the council chamber, where the Lord Mayor, proposing the usual toasts and the health of the visitors, apologized that the Lady Mayoress, owing to the heat of the day, had declined to appear in the sumptuous red silk dress that the statutes or traditions of Salisbury had prescribed for her. After several brief speeches from Mr. Dewey and others, the party visited the Free Public Library nearby, which, with a few thousand volumes, is doing exceedingly good work, where Librarian Langmead presented them with his little pamphlet on the interesting features of Salisbury. Thence they were led by Mr. Watson to the ancient and interesting "Halle of John Halle," a mediæval guildhouse, which he has restored to its original condition.

On the way to the cathedral, the lovely setting of which in its wide close was to those new to English cathedral towns a charming revelation, the Vice-dean of the cathedral, "married to the cathedral" in lieu of a wife, as some one said of him, gave a most sympathetic, scholarly, and charming description of the cathedral and its monuments. The visitors were then made welcome to the deanery gardens, and Mrs. Wordsworth, wife of the Bishop of Salisbury, acted in his absence as host and hostess both, at the garden-party in the delightful grounds of the bishop's palace. All this made the start for Stonehenge rather late, since it was a drive of 10 miles in each direction. But the ardor of the visitors was not daunted, and at about six o'clock a procession of vehicles started for that lovely drive, past Old Sarum, and across the rolling Salisbury Plain, memorable in literature for its Shepherd. There was brief halt, with opportunity for refreshment, at the little inn at Amesbury, the parent town of Whittier's home, and another at its quaint church, and just at sunset the party came to those most wonderful and mysterious of ruins, the great stone circles of Stonehenge. The visitors scarcely needed the voluble guide to impress upon them the wonders of the place, and took a regretful leave, returning by the river road to Salisbury, where somewhat after 10 o'clock dinner was at length reached.

Sunday, July 18, was appointed on the program as a day of rest, but the visitors were out of the habit of rest, and did not rest. They attended service at the cathedral in the morning, wandered about the lovely gardens or elsewhere about the town after service, and in the afternoon drove or walked, some of them to Bemerton, in a pilgrimage to the church and parsonage of George Herbert, others to Old Sarum, for a closer view of that remarkable monument of a city of the past, and others to the cavalry encampment some miles away. It was not until after dusk had come and evening had closed upon the day that the more enterprising bethought them of the rest promised on the program.

GLASTONBURY AND WELLS.

On Monday morning, at "8.26 sharp," the pilgrims started toward the shrine of Glastonbury and the island valley of Avalyon. At Glastonbury Abbey the party were received by the president of the local antiquarian society, who made, on the green slopes of the abbey, a most charming address on the traditions and the facts about the abbey from the times of King Arthur down to these modern days. From the abbey the visitors passed through the interesting local museum, which included some of the curious objects from the lake dwellings, discovered not long before, and thence the carriages were resumed for the drive to Wells, across real English country, a drive made a little more exciting by a race with the rain, which began to pour as the party gained the hospitable shelter of the inn opposite Wells Cathedral.

After luncheon the second pilgrimage of the day was made to Wells Cathedral, where there was first an inspection, at the invitation of the bishop, of the lovely grounds about his palace, and afterwards an organ concert by the organist of the cathedral. The downpour made the drive back to Glastonbury rather questionable, and Mr. Dosse, the most courteous and efficient personal conductor placed by Mr. Chivers in charge of the travelling arrangements, enterprisingly arranged that the special cars should be sent from Glastonbury to Wells for the convenience of the party. In this comfortable way the party journeyed on to Exeter, arriving at the several inns where they were distributed in time again for a 10 o'clock dinner.

PLYMOUTH.

The itinerary gave time at Exeter only for an early morning glance at the cathedral, whose doors were opened before the usual time for the convenience of the visitors, and at 10 o'clock the party started on the hour and a half journey to Plymouth, always to be remembered for the lovely sweeps of English landscape seen again and again from the train. On arrival at Plymouth the visitors found Mr. Wright, the energetic and everywhere popular librarian of Plymouth, waiting at the station to receive them, in command of a fleet of brakes in which they were driven through the streets of Plymouth *en route* for the hotel. At noon the Mayor of Plymouth, Justice Radford, formally received the delegates, who were personally announced by Mr. Wright in the council chamber hall, where a brief word of welcome was spoken in the presence of many Plymouth people. The mayor, in welcoming the visitors, spoke of his own visit to the conference in London, where he was much struck with the earnestness and intentness of the members, and also with the alacrity with which they rose when the time for adjournment came. He mentioned as one of the most gratifying things of the year the handing over to the American people of what was known as the "Log of the *Mayflower*," a graceful act prompted by kindly feelings which he believed were reciprocated on the other side of the water. He welcomed them to Plymouth, the port from which the *Mayflower* last set sail for the new land.

Thence guests and hosts proceeded to the great room of the Corn Exchange, which had

been given up for the purpose, for luncheon at the personal hospitality of the mayor. After the repast, in which Devonshire clotted cream was an interesting feature, Mayor Radford called upon the Plymouth librarian, Mr. Wright, to propose the toast of "Our guests," which he did in a bright speech, summarizing Plymouth's history. Mr. Dewey, responding for the Americans, said that, as electric currents found their way back by the earth to their origin, so when people wandered over the world they turned instinctively back to the old home. Sir William Windeyer, for the Colonials, spoke of the great and glorious memories of English history, which is as dear to those as in the colonies as to the English themselves; and Miss James, for the lady visitors, said that she was glad to stand on the historic spot from which six of her ancestors sailed in the *Mayflower*. She told of a little girl, who asked an elder whether she would rather be two little girls or one old lady, and said that although she was content to be the latter, there were times when thinking of the great opportunities before librarians in the future, she almost wished to be two little girls growing up to be librarians in the better day coming. Mr. Bowker gave the toast of "Our hosts," coupling with it the names of Mayor Radford, Admiral Fremantle, and Mr. Varnier of the reception committee. He spoke of the links between old Plymouth and the new country, and of one especial link between the guests and the old town. Librarians belong to a profession which has to do with the building of character; Plymouth had always exported character and had plenty left, and it was no chance which associated the great naval power of England with this famous harbor, because what Plymouth and the English navy stood for was the development of character. In the great house of the mother-country, somehow the visitors felt that Plymouth was the home-room, the room of all others where the mother-spirit dwelt, and with that memory they should keep Plymouth in their hearts. The mayor, in responding, emphasized his pleasure in learning the position of women in the library calling in America; Admiral Fremantle gave earnest of hospitality for the morrow; and Mr. Varnier spoke pleasantly for the reception committee.

Leaving the Corn Exchange, the visitors walked through the old streets of Plymouth, known to the pilgrim fathers, gathered at the Barbican round the *Mayflower* memorial stone, and at the corporation pier embarked on the boat for the trip through the harbor and the enjoyable visit to the beautiful grounds of Mt. Edgecombe, and afterward up the Tamar to Cotehele, also at the invitation of the Earl of Mt. Edgecombe, where that most interesting Elizabethan residence was shown by the earl's caretakers. Tea was served on the run up the river, and water in plentiful showers on the way back, but nothing could dampen the spirits of the excursionists, and again they curbed their appetites until 10 o'clock dinner.

On Wednesday, July 21, the party went direct to the quay and embarked on the harbor steamer for the naval visit. Admiral Sir E. R. Fremantle personally acted as host, and with his flag officer accompanied the visitors throughout the trip. They were received first on the training ship *Defiance*, where a most interesting talk on torpedo warfare was made by the senior officer in one of the lecture-rooms, and from the deck of which the visitors witnessed first the firing of a torpedo and afterward the explosion of a mine in the harbor, both novel entertainments being arranged especially for their edification. The party also arranged visited the Keyham Dockyard, passed near enough to the Devonport yard to get a general view, and were also received on the superb cruiser *Renown*, where parties were taken through every part of the ship under the guidance of midshipmite hosts. This unusual official entertainment was thoroughly appreciated, and not the less because there was no speechmaking to express it.

On returning from the *Renown*, luncheon was served at the Corn Exchange, Alderman J. T. Greek Wills, chairman of the library committee, who were the hosts, being in the chair. A few short speeches were made by Sir William Windeyer, Mr. Crunden, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Lane, and Mr. J. P. Lake, turning largely on the enormity of a war between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race. Mr. Crunden ended by proposing the health of the borough librarian, Mr. Wright, to whom the chairman had declared that the success of the visit was due. Mr. Crunden expressed his pleasure at seeing a man not engaged in money-making, and having no chance of coming to the front as a citizen from his worldly position, yet valued and accepted as a leading man on account of his good work and his worth. Guildhall was then visited, where Mr. Wright explained the painted glass windows in the presence of the designer and maker, Mr. J. T. Fouracre. A visit to St. Andrew's Church completed the official program. In the evening the majority of the party sought an early and much-needed rest. A few accepted the hospitality of the Casino on the pier or of the Royal theatre, where they saw with huge delight the murder, abduction, fight with the police, burglary, chase over the roofs, and feats of a female Hercules, sensations which, served up in the form of a novel, few of the librarians would have dared to present to their readers.

### BATH.

It is a long but pleasant ride from Plymouth to Bath. On the way there are glimpses of the red sandstone cliffs of Dawlish, of the edge of the Lorna Doone country, and of the beautiful spire of St. Mary Radcliffe at Bristol. The party was received at a luncheon given by the Mayor of Bath, but owing to a death in his family ex-Mayor Rubie presided. Councillor J. W. Morris toasted "The International Library Congress," and dilated upon literature as a greater bond of union than even our common race or our common language. Mr. Dewey spoke of the importance attached to libraries in America, the great sums given them, and of knowledge as enlarging and enriching life. Mr. Crunden

spoke of the pleasure which literary associations give to Americans travelling in England, to whom the characters of Thackeray and Dickens are as real as personages in history. He complimented Bath on its wealth of literary associations, and touched upon the influence of libraries in favor of peace and good-will. To Mr. Austin King's toast, "Women in library and literary work," Miss James replied briefly, and Miss Florence Hayward at length. Miss James was surprised to find so few female librarians in England. If a woman could be the best sovereign in the world why could not the women of England make the best librarians in the world? Miss Hayward was proud of the important position women librarians had taken. It proved that women had certain traits, the possession of which had often been denied them — capacity for detail, work, and logic. After lunch the company visited the Roman baths, guided by the city architect, Major C. E. Davis. At the Abbey, Canon Quirk acted as *cicerone*. At seven the party were driven to places of interest through the city.

The next day the party drove eight miles to Bradford in charge of Mr. Councillor Morris, who all the way poured forth a stream of antiquarian lore and good stories. Of the beauty of the typical English landscape in the varying lights of a half-cloudy day, it is impossible to convey any idea. The visitors climbed to Rowas Lodge, the seat of Austin King, Esq., whence, after lunch on the lawn, they went to Winsley Hill, flushing partridges and gathering wild flowers by the way. There is a view thence for miles of the country where King Alfred gained his victories over the Danes. Mr. Councillor Morris, in an eloquent address, told the story of the fights, and pointed out the consequences to England's history. Next the party came to Major Davis's quaint house, built in the reign of Henry VII. At Bradford he showed them the well-preserved Saxon church, the oldest seen in the whole journey, most interesting in its solid simplicity, which he had discovered when built around with stables and storehouses and half buried. Another lunch was spread on the lawn of The Hall (formerly Kingston House), seat of Mr. Moulton, a fine Elizabethan mansion, rescued by the owner's father from the ruin into which its use as a weaving-mill had brought it.

OXFORD.

A hot railroad ride, brought the party on Friday, July 22, to Oxford. Bodley's librarian, Mr. Nicholson, gave a reception at the Examination schools, where, as soon as the ice was broken that at first separated the visitors from the dons and their wives, a most lively and enjoyable evening followed. Of the next day, suffice it to say that the visitors rushed through the Bodleian, the Museum, and five colleges in the morning, and five colleges and the Cathedral in the afternoon. The treasures of the Bodleian, the gardens of Wadham, the interesting talk of Sir Henry Acland at the Museum, the windows of Balliol, the chapel and hall of New, the young deer in the park of Magdalen, the lovely painted windows in the library of Merton, the paintings and drawings of old masters in the library of Christ Church, the Burne-Jones windows in the Cathedral impressed themselves deeply even upon jaded minds. The welcome rest of Sunday restored their powers, and Monday saw the temporary dispersion of the party.

*AMERICANS PRESENT AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.*

Ahern, Miss M. E., *Public Libraries*, Library Bureau, Chicago.
Ames, Miss Harriet H., Hoyt Library, East Saginaw, Mich.
Andrews, Clement W., librarian John Crerar Library, Chicago.
Barton, Edmund M., librarian American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.
Barton, Mrs. Edmund M., Worcester, Mass.
Birtwell, Miss Mary L., Associated Charities, Cambridge, Mass.
Biscoe, Walter S., New York State Library.
Biscoe, Miss Alice M.
Biscoe, Miss Ellen D.
Biscoe, Miss Lucy W.
*Bowker, R. R., LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York.
Brinkerhoff, Adelaide, Mansfield, O.
Brown, Dr. Francis H., Boston.
Brown, Mrs. Francis H., Boston.
Brown, Miss Edith, Boston.
Browne, Miss Nina E., Publishing Section A. L. A., Boston.
Chase, Frederick A., City Library, Lowell, Mass.
Clark, Miss Elizabeth R., University of Nashville, Tenn.
Cole, George W., late librarian Jersey City Public Library.
Conant, Miss Marjory, Boston.
*Crunden, Frederick M., librarian Public Library, St. Louis.
Crunden, Frank D., St. Louis, Mo.
Curran, Mrs. M. H., librarian Public Library, Bangor, Me.
*Cutter, Charles Ammi, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.
Davis, Miss Mary L., Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
De Vinne, Theodore L., New York.
*Dewey, Melvil, director New York State Library; delegated by the U. S. Government.
Dunn, Mrs. W. T., Worcester, Mass.
Eakins, William George, librarian Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto.
Field, Mrs. Fanny, Avondale, Cincinnati, O.
Fowler, Miss Mary, Cornell University Library.
Francis, Miss Mary, Hartford, Ct.
Gliddon, de Putron, Public Library, Butte, Mont.
*Gould, C. H., librarian McGill University Library, Montreal.
Green, Miss Margaret, Cambridge, Mass.
Hawley, Miss M. E., New York State Library.
Hewins, Miss Caroline M., librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.
Hill, Frank P., librarian Public Library, Newark, N. J.
Hill, Mrs. Frank P., Newark, N. J.
Hills, W. J., Public Library, Bridgeport, Ct.

* indicates vice-presidents of the conference.

Hull, Miss Fanny, librarian Union for Christian Work, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Hutchinson, Charles H., Athenæum, Philadelphia.
*James, Miss Hannah P., librarian Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes Barre, Pa.
Jenks, Henry A., Canton, Mass.
Jenks, Rev. Henry S., trustee Public Library, Canton, Mass.
*Jones, Gardner M., librarian Public Library, Salem, Mass.
Jones, Mrs. Gardner M., Salem, Mass.
Jones, Mary L., University of Illinois.
Keating, Miss Geraldine, Rockville, Ct.
Lane, ——— Boston.
Lane, Mrs. Lucius P., Boston.
*Lane, W. Coolidge, librarian Athenæum, Boston.
* Langton, H. H., librarian University of Toronto.
Le Crone, Miss Anna L., librarian Public Library, Champaign, Ill.
Lee, Miss Venie J., University of Nashville, Tenn.
McCrory, Miss Harriette L., librarian State Normal School, Millersville, Pa.
Mann, Miss Frances M., librarian Public Library, Dedham, Mass.
Monfort, E. M., librarian Public Library, Marietta, O.
Nolan, Edward J., M.D., librarian Academy of Natural sciences, Philadelphia.
Noyes, James, Athens, N. Y.
Noyes, Mrs. Penelope, Athens, N. Y.
Phillips, Miss Mary E., librarian Public Library, Oneonta, N. Y.
*Putnam, Herbert, librarian Public Library, Boston; delegated by the U. S. Government.
Robertson, J. P., librarian Manitoba Legislative Library, Winnipeg.
Robinson, Christopher, Toronto.
Sharp, Miss Katherine L., Armour Institute, Chicago.
Shaw, Miss Sybil, Woburn, Mass.
Sheldon, Miss Helen G., Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.
Southworth, Mrs. Myra F., librarian Public Library, Brockton, Mass.
Speck, Miss Celeste, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.
Sperry, Miss Ethel M., Waterbury, Ct.
Sperry, Miss Helen, librarian Carnegie Library, Braddock, Pa.
Stechert, Gustav E., New York.
Steiner, Dr. Bernard C., librarian Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
Stevenson, W. M., librarian Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa.
Thompson, Leonard, trustee Corporation Library, Woburn, Mass.
Thorburn, John, librarian Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa.
Thurston, Miss Elizabeth P., librarian Free Library, Newton, Mass.
Tredway, Miss Mary, St. Louis, Mo.
Utley, H. M., librarian Public Library, Detroit, Mich.
Utley, Mrs. H. M., Detroit, Mich.

* indicates vice-presidents of the conference.

Van Vliet, Miss Jessie, Armour Institute, Chicago.
Walker, Miss Harriet A., Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.
Wheeler, Miss Anna, Albany, N. Y.
Wheeler, Miss Martha T., New York State Library.
Whitney, James Lyman, Public Library, Boston, Mass.
Whitney, Miss Margaret Dwight, Pratt Institute Library School, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Wildman, Miss Gertrude, Athenæum, Boston.
Wildman, Miss Linda, Boston.
Winship, George Parker, librarian John Carter Brown Library, Providence, R. I.
*Winsor, Justin, librarian Harvard University Library; delegated by the U. S. government.
Winsor, Mrs. Justin, Cambridge, Mass.
Wright, Miss C. D., Canton, Mass.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION. Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison, Wis.

THE Wisconsin commission is arranging for section meetings throughout the state, with special reference to the travelling library movement. One has been planned for Oct. 1–2, at Grand Rapids, and others will be held as follows: Oct. 22–23, Menomonie; Nov. 12–13, Eau Claire; Dec. 10–12, Ashland. Others will be arranged for later in the year. Many of the Wisconsin libraries are in need of new buildings, and the officers of the commission have arranged for illustrated lectures on library buildings in small towns, to be delivered in these places, with stereopticon views of interiors and exteriors of libraries. Another lecture for which plans are now being made is devoted to travelling libraries. This will be illustrated with views of the stations and small settlements where the libraries have been so much appreciated, and will be delivered in the largest cities of the state, for the purpose of obtaining gifts of magazines and books to send to the lumber towns in the northern part of the state.

The commission has issued a revised edition of its excellent handbook, brought closely up to date, and full of practical and compact information and advice for the libraries of the state, and of almost equal usefulness to small libraries elsewhere. Its several appendixes, giving short lists of aids in library economy, aids in selecting books, etc., are especially excellent.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

THE PUBLIC AND ITS PUBLIC LIBRARY. In the *Popular Science Monthly* for June Mr. J. C. Dana has an article on "The public and its public library" that should be read by all who have to do with libraries. In several respects it takes up the lines of his address made at the Cleveland conference as president of the A. L. A., being based upon the premise that the library, supported by the public on compulsion, must be first, last, and always an instrument of public good if its existence is to be justified. The keynote is struck in this sentence:

"The public owns its public library. This fact sheds much light on the question of library management. It means that the public library must be fitted to public needs. It must suit its community. It must do the maximum of work at the minimum of expense. It must be an economical educational machine. It must give pleasure, for only where pleasure is is any profit taken. It must change in its manner of administration with the new time, the new relations of books to men and of men to books. It need not altogether forget the bookworm or the belated historian, and it can take note here and there of the lover of the dodo and the freaks among printed things. But its prime purpose is to place the right books in the proper hands, to get the more joyful and wise thoughts into the minds of the owners. The means of its support are taken by force from the pockets of the competent and provident; this fact should never be lost sight of. It lives, in a measure, by the sword. It can justify itself in this manner of securing its support only by putting into practice the familiar theory that the state, would it insure its own continuance, must see that all its citizens have access to the stores, in books, of knowledge and wisdom. It must be open to its public; it must invite its public — all to the end that it may educate its public."

Free access to the books, as the first great requisite in making a public library really a library for the public; a library building that shall permit this access in all departments, and the greatest possible freedom in all details of library use, are the main heads of Mr. Dana's argument, which is presented with all his characteristic terseness, lucidity, and force.

### LOCAL.

*Alameda (Cal.) P. L.* (18th rpt. — year ending May 31, '97.) Added 1661; total 22,077. Issued, home use 123,274 (fict. 65,510); teachers' and class use 2700. Receipts $10,187.45; expenses $8553.95.

At this year's (1897) commencement exercises of the public schools, medals were offered for the best compositions by a boy and girl on "The library as an adjunct of the public schools." The prizes were awarded June 7, and the compositions were printed in one of the local dailies. Mr. Harbourne writes: "Recognizing the fact that these essays were written by children not over 14 years of age, it strikes me that they are beginning early to have a proper conception of the uses of the public library."

*Augusta, Ga. Y. M. L. A.* At a meeting of the directors held July 8, it was decided to establish, as soon as possible, a children's department.

*Berkeley (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.) Added 560; total 5236. Issued, home use 24,031 (fict. 74 %); attendance at lib. 90,075. Expenses $3987.16.

*Boston P. L.* (45th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '97.) The reports of individual libraries are often the most valuable contributions to the general literature of library economy. This fact finds ample proof each year, and it is now emphasized again by the appearance of the report of the Boston Public Library for 1896. Any summary of this report within necessary limits must be inadequate, and it should be read as a whole by librarians, who will find it one of the most suggestive and interesting of recent library documents. As usual, it is a detailed record, including the preliminary summary by the trustees, the full report of Mr. Putnam, and the suggestive report of the examining committee, with appendixes covering elaborate statistics of contents, circulation and use of the library and its branches.

The statistics may be summarized as follows: Added 33,468; total 663,763, of which 488,227 are in the central library. Issued, home use 1,005,019, of which 678,765 were issued through the 14 branches, 12 delivery stations, and 13 engine-houses, the latter receiving monthly deposits of 25 v. each. 8047 v. were issued on teachers' cards. Cards in use 45,606, as against 34,842 on Feb. 1, 1896. The percentage of cardholders to population is .0917. Receipts $272,842.87; expenses $243,366.81, the balance of $29,476.08 being "largely income from trust funds, restricted to the purchase of books, and not to be used for other purposes." The total expenditures for books and periodicals was $40,430.23, and the increase in general expenditures over the preceding year was $22,917.28.

Considerable space is given to the work of the branches and delivery stations, which has been largely extended by the more general use of the "deposit" system, by which deposits of about 300 v. are sent to each station, placed on open shelves and circulated directly from the station. The circulation for home use shows a gain of 18 % over the previous year, much of this being the direct effect of the branches and stations. In discussing this branch use, Mr. Putnam points out that the present method, by which custodians of stations are paid in proportion to the number of books circulated, makes it to the interest of the custodian to encourage the reading of light literature and thus interferes with the main purpose of the deposit system — the raising of the character of reading by making books of serious importance directly accessible. He suggests that a solution of the difficulty might be to pay custodians

one rate of compensation for fiction and a higher rate for other literature.

The loss of books during the year deserves consideration. From the Bates Hall reference shelves but 38 v. have been missed out of over 7000 freely accessible, and those lost are of "relatively insignificant value." Of the 90,000 accessible v. on the special libraries floor, 77 were unaccounted for; of the 5000 v. in the patent library, none were missing; but those lost from the children's-room numbered several hundred, and 249 v. have been missed from the branches since the introduction of open shelves, while the arrest of one adult book-thief with 27 v. in his possession, and of six juvenile thieves with 21 books in their possession, shows that a percentage of the missing books must be set down as stolen. Mr. Putnam says: "Of course, the books stolen are of a class easily replaced at no great cost, but the total of loss is large enough, I fear, to be quoted to the discredit of open shelves. I am entirely unwilling to admit that it touches the principle of open shelves."

During the year 63 books were loaned to other libraries in the state upon special application, a system of blanks for conducting inter-library loans having been devised in May. In the central library 50,794 v. were cataloged. 8145 v. and 3416 pamphlets were bound in the library bindery, exclusive of repairing and miscellaneous work.

The report of the examining committee is of special interest, in its practical suggestions regarding the children's-room, the branches, and the delivery-room. The lack of space already apparent at Bates Hall makes some more adequate reading-room provision necessary, and the committee recommend the use of the space now devoted to the courtyard for this purpose.

*Brooklyn* (*N. Y.*) *P. L.* At a meeting of the directors held July 21, it was announced that the board of estimate had appropriated $5000 for the immediate use of the library. The committee on sites was authorized to select a building for temporary headquarters and to serve as a public library and reading-room for the immediate future.

*Burlington* (*Ia.*) *F. P. L.* (11th rpt. — year ending May 31, '97.) Added 730; total 16,087. Issued, home use 53,166 (fict. 31,073); estimated attendance in reading-room 15,440. New registration 598; total cardholders 3408.

The new building is rapidly nearing completion.

*Council Bluffs* (*Ia.*) *P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) Added 546; total 20,789. Issued 81,092; visitors to lib. 104,765. Receipts $6460.43; expenses $4754.33.

*Edgewood* (*R. I.*) *F. P. L. A.* The association have accepted plans for a new library building, on which work will shortly begin. It is to be a one-story building, 25 x 40 feet, of wood and rough exterior plastering, and will cost about $1200. The library association was formed about two years ago, and has been most successful in its work.

*Eldora* (*Ia.*) *P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) Added 90; total 2000. Issued 4904; visitors to lib. 9171. Receipts $533.83; expenses $532.58.

*Ilion* (*N. Y.*) *F. P. L.* (4th rpt. — year ending May 1, '97) Added 482; total 9170. Issued, home use 41,886 (fict. 19,680, juv. 11,473). New registration 568; total registration 2329; teachers taking extra cards 20. Receipts $2279.94; expenses $2178.

"The wisdom of the policy adopted at the outset admitting children of all ages to the enjoyment of the books is apparent. No statistics of the use of the reference department have been kept until the last three months. The number registered during this time has been at the rate of 650 per month." Since the last report a complete catalog — author, title, and subject — has been finished and installed.

*Iowa State Univ. L.*, *Iowa City.* The legislature on July 1 refused to levy a special tax for a new library building to replace that recently destroyed by fire. The proposition was overwhelmingly defeated. The university regents declined to accept any other provision, preferring to renew the campaign at the next session, and the matter was dropped for the present.

*Kankakee* (*Ill.*) *P. L.* The Ladies' Library Association on July 6 agreed to transfer a bequest of $5000, left them some years ago by George V. Heuling, to the public library as an addition to the building fund; they will also make over to the library the 10,000 v. owned by their organization. This will be increased by $10,000 appropriated by the city and private gifts. The movement for a library building is hardly a month old. It was started June 16, when Frederick Swannell gave to the city a $5000 lot near the city hall, to be the site of a library building, and it has been pushed with such vigor that it is thought that the $20,000 building planned will be completed within a few months. The plans have already been secured. The library itself was started a little over a year ago, and has had general public appreciation.

*Manchester, Vt. Mark Skinner L.* The library, which was dedicated on July 7, is a gift to Manchester from Mrs. Henry Willing, of Chicago, in memory of her father. Its estimated cost is $50,000. The building is of pressed brick, with stone trimmings and a tiled roof. Its interior fitting and finishing are rich and tasteful, and it starts work with 10,000 v. Among the books are a large number of volumes from Judge Skinner's fine private library, and an original set of Kingsborough's "Mexican antiquities." A feature of the library will be the collection and preservation of books and documents relating to the early history of Manchester and surrounding towns, also of Vermont and New England. Arrangements will also be made for branches or stations in the outlying districts.

*Matunuck, R. I. Hale Memorial L.* The Robert Beverly Hale Memorial Library building was dedicated on June 26, the chief address being made by Dr. Edward Everett Hale. The building, which according to the memorial inscription was built "by the friends of Robert Beverly Hale," is a one-story structure, of wood, with a stone foundation. A short flight of steps leads to a square piazza, whose sloping roof is formed by a continuation of the sloping roof of the building. Curved seats are fitted to the sides of the piazza, which is finished in hard wood, the seats, door, and some parts being painted a dark green. The massive door at the entrance has a large window in the upper half. Small single panes, set one above another, form side lights for the hall, which is five by eight feet in size. A coat-room at the right and store-room at the left open from the hall, and are lighted by windows from the front. Direcily opposite the main entrance double doors lead into the library, which is 22 feet square. Opposite the doors is an open fireplace fitted with brass and irons. The woodwork is highly polished oak, and there is a stationary seat against the wall on each side of the fireplace. The walls are terra-cotta, the ceiling is buff with a pink tone, divided into large panels by the polished oak beams. Shelves run around the entire room, broken only by chimney, doors, and a bay window on the west, built of Milford granite and fitted with windows composed of diamond-shaped panes set in lead. On the east side, directly opposite, is a broad window, also of diamond-shaped panes, above the book-shelves. About 2000 books, presented by friends, are now in the library.

*New York F. C. L. for the Blind.* (2d rpt. — March, 1897.) "The advancement made during the past year is most gratifying. From the small beginning of a library containing but 60 v. we have between 400 and 500 v. In addition the association has purchased selections of music for the organ, piano, guitar, and violin, arranged for the use of the blind. The library was formally opened Nov. 9, 1896. The books have been eagerly sought, and the demand for them is increasing. 200 v. have been purchased and 246 have been donated. The association has been duly registered by the University of the State of New York." The library occupies a room in the parish house of St. Agnes' Church, 121 W. 91st street. It is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

*New York. Harlem L.* On July 20 the trustees decided that on and after September 1 the library shall be conducted as a free circulating library. It was established in 1825, and has heretofore charged an annual membership fee of $2.

*New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations.* The collection of pamphlets and reports, on a very broad scale, is planned by Dr. Billings, who has recently issued a circular, expressing the desire of the library "to obtain, maintain, and preserve for the benefit of the public as complete a collection as possible of all reports and pamphlets relating to associations of men and women for any purpose, and especially of all those relating to such associations in the city and state of New York and in the United States." It is explained that this will include state and municipal documents; and also, plans of organization, charters, constitutions, by-laws and regulations, lists of members and reports, of corporations, institutions, and organizations of all kinds, as, for example, of "art associations, athletic associations, banks, guarantee safe deposit and trust companies, boards of trade and chambers of commerce, building associations, cemeteries and crematories, educational institutions, colleges, libraries, schools, universites, gas and electric lighting companies, genealogical associations, insurance companies, labor organizations, mining companies, charitable organizations and institutions, churches and religious associations and organizations, clubs, commercial and manufacturing associations, municipal reform associations, mutual aid associations, professional associations, railroads, scientific and literary associations, secret societies, and waterworks.

"All documents published by or relating to such associations, including addresses and pamphlets of all kinds, will be gladly received and carefully preserved. Documents printed solely for the information of members of associations, and marked 'Confidential,' will be filed and preserved, but not made accessible to the public until the need for secrecy has passed away. It is earnestly requested that the secretaries of all such associations will place the address of this library upon their mailing lists."

*New York State L.* (77th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, 1894.) The 1894 report of the New York State Library, dated Jan. 2, 1895, has recently appeared in official form as a massive volume of over 1000 pages. The report proper, covering 64 pages, naturally gives data that has previously appeared in the L. J., six pages being devoted to an account of the A. L. A. conferences of 1893 and 1894, of the Publishing Section, and of the Association of State Librarians. This is followed by "Statistics of New York libraries for 1894" (L. J. 20 : 324), Legislation bulletin, nos. 4 and 5, giving summaries of legislation in 1893 and 1894 (L. J. 20 : 223), subject index of law additions (L. J. 20 : 327), and the catalog of additions to the library from 1890–1894 noted, in its separate form, elsewhere in this issue.

In the secretary's report on the University of the State of New York for the year ending Sept. 30, 1895, just issued as Regents' bulletin no. 35, later information concerning the library is given. The growth for the year is stated as 14,328, giving a total, exclusive of travelling and extension libraries, of 190,426; the grand total, including 126,638 duplicates, is 337,929. "The recall of borrowers' outstanding permits and the reissue of permits only to those who had some special claim on the library, or who could give conclusive reason why they should have

privileges not accorded to the general public, resulted in the circulation of a slightly smaller number of volumes than during the preceding year. It is believed that a limited circulation makes the library more useful to a greater number than a close restriction of the books to reference use, but as the library is primarily for reference, it requires constant care to keep a just balance between the rights of the two classes of readers."

*Ogden (Utah) P. L. A.* On the evening of July 10 the association held a public reception in its new quarters. It was largely attended, and a short address on the history of the library was made by Hon. David Evans. The opening of the library under the new conditions marks a notable advance in its fortunes. The rooms now occupied were formerly used as a fire station, and are on the first floor of the city hall, in which the library has been located since it was opened five years ago. The rooms were enlarged and fitted up by the city council, and the association spent about $175 on new shelving, chairs, and tables, besides receiving many gifts of books and money. It is hoped that the help of the city council thus secured will soon result in a municipal appropriation for the support of the library. The recent action to this effect taken by the Salt Lake City council is most encouraging to those interested in the Ogden library.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* It has been proposed to remove the library from the capitol building to the state university, and the suggestion will be submitted to the next legislature. The change is urged on the ground that it will give the library needed room and will relieve the present overcrowding at the state house.

*Philadelphia F. L. of Economics.* A Free Library of Economics and Political Science was opened in June at 1315 Filbert street. The intentions of the founders are briefly stated as (1) to form a free library complete in its collection of books, pamphlets, and periodicals relating to economics and political science; (2) to arrange for classes and courses of lectures to be conducted by some of the existing societies in Philadelphia, or independently as may seem better in each case; (3) to supply foreign as well as local requests for literature by direct sale or by forwarding to publishers. This part of the work will be of special value in the case of reports of societies and pamphlet literature published in other countries than the United States; and (4) to develop the scope of the library through correspondence, and to extend the loan of literature beyond Philadelphia as the financial conditions warrant.

The Free Library of Philadelphia and the American Academy of Political and Social Science have already co-operated largely in the work, and other kindred societies are expected to give a helping hand. The library will be open on Sundays and in the evening. Miss Helen Marot is librarian.

*Port Huron (Mich.) P. L.* (2d rpt.) Added 2107; total 4349. Issued 31,588; no. borrowers, 1750. The report covers but 10 months, to May 1, for the library was not opened in its new quarters to the public until July, 1896, when it started work with municipal support. The growth in the use of the library under its improved conditions has been most gratifying.

*Quincy (Ill.) P. L.* The librarian's report for the year ending May 31 gives the following facts. Added 4371; total 23,183. Issued, home use 79,098 (fict. 42,165); ref. use 5093; Sunday use 1344; issued on teachers' cards 549. Visitors to reading-room 62,117. New registration 882; total cardholders 5104.

*Redlands (Cal.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending July 1, '97.) Added 1053; total 4043. Issued, home use 23,776 (fict. 12,373, juv. fict. 3399). Attendance in reading-room 17,402. New registration 376; total registration 1439.

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. L.* Several interesting developments of the library's work have been planned for the fall. One of the most important is the establishment of a special school collection of books for little children. In arranging for this, Mr. Crunden has sent out a circular to all public school teachers, in which he says: "With a view to supplying the means for arousing and satisfying the curiosity of little ones beginning to read, it is proposed to send to every school in the city a sample lot of Mother Goose rhymes and fairy stories for examination by principals and teachers in the lower grades. Those who first receive the books will kindly return them as soon as possible, in order that they may be sent to other schools. When sending back the books principals are requested to indicate—

"1. Whether they would like to have books of the kind submitted for use in their lower grades.

"2. Which of the books they prefer, or if they approve equally of all.

"3. Whether they would prefer assorted lots—two or three copies each of 10 or 15 different books, or sets of, say, 30 copies of the same book, to be changed from time to time.

"The latter plan would, I think, intensify the interest and would, perhaps, make class exercises more practicable. The method of using the books, however, would, of course, be left entirely to the teachers. If they think it advisable the children might take the books home."

It is hoped to have the system, if approved, in working order by October.

It is also proposed to establish delivery stations in the power-houses of the various city street-car lines. These stations will be in charge of one of the employes of the company, and two deliveries a week will be made from the main library. As the companies will furnish the rooms and pay the men in charge, the plan entails but a trifling expense to the library, and will, it is thought, bring the influence of the library to many who will appreciate it

but to whom it would be otherwise unobtainable.

*Southport, Ct. Pequot L.* (3d rpt.) Added 3785; total 12,058. Issued, home use 14,620 (fict. 61 % including juv. fict.; juv. 22 %). New cards issued 190; total registration 1071. Reading-room attendance 15,984.

On July 20 the library received an endowment of $30,000 from Mrs. Elbert B. Monroe, its founder. There have been several interesting exhibits in the reading-room during the past year. These have been only of such pictures as could easily be shown on screens, and have included posters, the Copley prints of the Boston Public Library decorations, Japanese wood prints and Japanese colored photographs.

*Sturbridge, Mass. Hyde P. L.* The Joshua Hyde Public Library, given to Sturbridge by the late George D. Hyde, of Boston, was dedicated on the afternoon of July 22. The chief address was by Prof. George H. Haynes, of Worcester, who described the development of the local library from its beginning as a school district library in 1842. In 1850 the Quinebaug Library Association was organized, and in 1873 its collection of 500 v. was transferred to town control, an appropriation being made for its support. It was opened to the public in the town hall on July 23, 1873. S. S. Green, of the Worcester Public Library, made a short address, in which he announced that there was not a town in Worcester county without a public library, and that Sturbridge was the 20th town in the county to establish its library in a beautiful new building.

The building, which was designed by architect Darrow, of Boston, was begun in May, 1896, and completed last December. It is a one-story structure, colonial in style, of cream-colored brick, with white marble trimmings. Its most striking features are the entrance, with its massive white pillars, and the dome. To the right and left of the entrance are small cloak and toilet rooms, while a few feet further on, and nearly in the centre of the room, is the librarian's desk, which faces the south. The interior of the building, with the exception of the toilet and cloak rooms, is all one large room, whose length and breadth over all are approximately those of the entire building, 50 by 23 feet. The southerly half of the room, to the right of the entrance, is for the general public, while the division in the rear of the librarian's desk serves as the stack-room. Running entirely around this division is a gallery, provided with shelving for books, and reached by stairs, which rise from near the librarian's desk. Directly opposite the entrance and beneath one end of the gallery is the brick fireplace, fitted on one side with a broad seat. Running around the public part of the room, beneath the windows, are beautiful panels of oak, while the walls are finished in a brownish clouded effect, which fades into a creamy tint at the ceiling. The stack half of the room, including the gallery, has a shelving capacity for 10,000 v.

The bequest from which the building has been erected was $20,000, of which one-half was to be devoted to a building, and the income of the remainder to be applied to the purchase of books.

*University of the State of N. Y.* (Extension dept., 3d rpt., 1895.) This report, which has just appeared in a volume of 408 p. with imprint date of 1897, is made up of reports of various divisions of the extension department that have previously appeared, and that, in so far as they relate to library matters, have been noted in the L. J. Besides the director's brief report, it contains the following Extension bulletins: no. 13, on summer schools (L. J. 21: 386); nos. 14–15, $500 library recommended for schools (L. J. 21: 523); no. 16, report of Public Libraries Division, 1895 (L. J. 22: 261); and no. 17, devoted wholly to a review of progress in extension teaching.

*Utica (N. Y.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) Added 1282, of which 637 were gifts; total, 23,144; issued, home use 140,477 (fict. 79 %); visitors to ref. dept. 5952. New registration 2611; total cards in use, about 5000.

"Perhaps no department is more appreciated and utilized than the children's corner. Since a course of reading for class and home use was arranged for the schools with reference to the age and grade of the scholar, the number of juvenile readers has greatly increased. The improvement resulting from a well-selected course instead of a promiscuous choice by the pupils themselves is very marked. What is specially desired by the librarian and the trustees is to open a separate reading-room as a children's department and to enlarge the reference department. It is now almost impossible to find shelf room for the increased number of volumes cataloged, to say nothing of keeping them in their proper order."

*Wausau, Wis.* A library has recently been opened in Wausau, the common council having made an appropriation for its support.

*Westfield, N. Y. Patterson L.* The library was opened to the public on July 12; it contains 6307 v., and was given to the town by the late Miss Hannah Patterson.

*Youngstown (O.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending April 30, '97.) Added 1496; total 11,971. Issued, home use 51,232; ref. attendance 1092. Receipts $4123.15; expenses $2723.33.

"The experiment of furnishing sets of books to schools was so satisfactory that we have added five more sets of 25 volumes each, and four more sets of the supplementary reading. We now have 20 sets for home circulation and 20 sets for class use in schools. These books have been in use nearly two years, and but two volumes have been lost. The 500 books for home circulation aggregated 2111 volumes to 760 pupils, many of whom would not have read a single book, probably, if they had depended upon coming to the library for it. The teachers have used the library more freely than in any previous year. 106 teachers have drawn 1206 volumes, mostly for school work."

## Practical Notes.

BOOK-CASE. Described in the *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, Apr. 20, 1897. 79:345. 1 col. il.

Quite an ingenious invention, using pulleys, ropes, pistons, cylinders, etc.

BOOK-SUPPORT. Described in *Official Gazette* of U. S. Patent Office, June 1, 1897. 79 : 1385 il.

"The combination with a book-shelf having longitudinal grooves therein, of a book-supporter made up of a curved strip of wire or sheet metal, the arms of which lie parallel to one another and are formed with flanges lying at right angles to the main portion thereof, said flanges being adapted to fit and move within the grooves in said shelf, and a plate of metal separate from but riveted or otherwise secured to said flanges and adapted to slip upon the top surface of said shelf."

LIBRARY POSTAL-CARDS. The new four years' contract for postal-cards recently made by the government includes the issue of a second postal-card somewhat smaller than the standard size. This is the result of the repeated applications of Mr. Melvil Dewey, who has long urged the issue of a card that can be inserted, if desired, in a library card catalog or index. Mr. Dewey's argument is that the large libraries supply one another with data on postal-cards, which are filed to make a card index; this makes it necessary to cut a card down after its receipt to the uniform index-card dimensions, five by three inches, and slip it into its proper place in the drawer. This cutting of every card as it comes out of the mail is burdensome, and for some time librarians have been desirous of either a change in the size of the standard card or the issue of a separate card of index size. The department has this year agreed to make the trial, and to decide whether the change is sufficiently desired to be worth making it permanent. It has ordered, however, only 200,000,000 cards of the index size, against 1,800,000,000 of the standard.

## Librarians.

ALVORD, Thomas, jr., was on July 12 appointed chief of the art department of the Congressional Library. Mr. Alvord, who is a son of Thomas G. Alvord, formerly a member of the New York legislature, has been for some years the Washington correspondent of the New York *World*, and recently made a trip to Cuba for that newspaper.

BURSCH, Daniel F. W., for several years librarian of the Portland (Ore.) Library Association, has resigned his position, and intends to enter business with his father in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Bursch is a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1892. He has been succeeded at the Portland Library by D. P. Leach, formerly assistant librarian.

DICKINSON, Joseph R., for 20 years librarian of Ohio Wesleyan University, died at his home in Delaware, O., on July 24. Mr. Dickinson was born on Staten Island in 1829. He went to Ohio in 1846, when he entered as a student the university with which he was so long connected.

HUTCHESON, David, for many years Mr. Spofford's principal assistant in the Congressional Library, was on July 12 appointed superintendent of the reading-room on the new library staff. The appointment is non political, and strictly along the line of direct merit and civil-service reform. Mr. Hutcheson in his connection with the library has shown executive capacity, courtesy, and tact, and he is especially fitted for the post assigned to him. The appointment has been received with general cordial approval.

MERRIMAN, Erle H., assistant in the St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library, has accepted a similar position in the Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library.

PHILLIPS, P. Lee, has been appointed chief of the department of maps and charts in the Congressional Library. Mr. Phillips has been in charge of the cartographic collection of the library for many years, and is specially fitted for the position by his experience and enthusiasm in his work. It is largely due to him that the maps and charts in the library have been cataloged and made at all available for public use, and he has been called the creator of this department of the library.

SOLBERG, Thorvald, was on July 17 appointed Register of Copyrights at the Congressional Library, a position that next to the chief assistant librarian is the most important on the staff of the new library. No better appointment for this post could have been made, and the new Bureau of Copyrights is fortunate in securing thus at the outset the services of a man who is probably better fitted than any other to handle its work. Mr. Solberg was born of Norwegian parents on April 12, 1852, in Manitowoc, Wis. He received a common school education, and entered the book business at an early age. On May 1, 1876, he entered the Library of Congress as cataloger, remaining until May, 1889, some eight years of that time being spent in the law library. His interest in the work of the copyright office led to the preparation of his "Bibliography of literary property: a catalog of books and articles relating to copyright." This was printed in the *Publishers' Weekly* in 1885, and reprinted in 1886 in "Copyright, its law and its literature," by R. R. Bowker. In 1887, while in the Library of Congress, Mr. Solberg was granted six months' leave of absence to visit the capitals of Europe and gather information regarding the bibliography of foreign codes and statutes. This afforded him opportunity to perfect his bibliography of copyright by the addition of several hundred titles. Becoming interested in the struggle for the international copyright law, he prepared a his-

tory of the movement and published it as a pamphlet, "International copyright in the United States, 1837–86." In 1888 he served as secretary *pro tem* for the International Copyright Association of the District of Columbia, and was elected its corresponding secretary. He was active in urging the amendment to the Chace bill, and at the request of the joint committee of the Authors' and Publishers' Copyright League submitted a revised text of that bill as it had been passed by the senate on May 9, 1888, together with a verbal argument in support of the amendments proposed. These are printed in a pamphlet entitled "International copyright," and the text as amended was adopted by the committee and printed by order of the senate, and became substantially the text of the act of 1891. Mr. Solberg has been a member of the council of the Authors' Copyright League for eight or 10 years. In 1893 he attended, by invitation of the director of the International Copyright Bureau at Berne, the Copyright Congress at Barcelona, and as a member of the International Literary and Artistic Association of Paris, the Copyright Conference at Antwerp. He has been a frequent contributor of copyright articles to *Le Droit d'Auteur*, the *Journal de Droit Internationale*, several German periodicals, the *Nation*, the *Publishers' Weekly* and the *Critic*, and he has an extensive and valuable private collection of copyright literature. Mr. Solberg has been a member of the A. L. A. since 1886, and for some years past has been connected with the Boston Book Co.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BROOKLINE (*Mass.*) P. L. Catalogue of music, corrected to June, 1897. 30 p. nar. D.

A well-arranged list, covering an excellent collection of pianoforte music, chamber music, operas, sacred music and songs. Copies may be obtained of the librarian at 10 c. each.

HAMILTON (*Ontario, Can.*) P. L. Catalogue of books, July, 1897. 120 p. O.

Title-a-line classed (D. C.) list, including all books except English fiction, followed by author index. The catalog of English fiction is issued as a supplement of 73 p., titles being arranged numerically in order of the numbers in the indicator.

LONDON (*Ontario, Can.*) P. L. Class catalogue. June 1, 1897. 122 p. O.

Lists, generally in title-a-line entries, about 10,000 v. Author lists of adult fiction and juveniles are followed by a D. C. classed list and subject index. Anonymous books, instead of being entered under the first word of title appear only under the word "Anonymous," at the head of each alphabet. In fiction and juveniles authors' surnames only are given. There is considerable carelessness in proof-reading, and some curious errors, as the inclusion of Ouida's "House party" in the juvenile division, the listing of "Cecil Dreeme" as by George William Curtis, and the seriously made entry "Gulliver. Travels." The catalog is printed on lemon-colored paper, rather too staring in tint to be agreeable.

The LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for June contains reference list no. 7 on astronomy.

The MECHANICS' INSTITUTE L., *San Francisco*, in its July *Bulletin* has a reference list on "Municipal government," including magazine articles as well as books.

PEORIA (*Ill.*) P. L. New books added from January to June, 1897. 4 p. O.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for July contains reference list no. 47 on "The Hawaiian Islands," special catalog no. 17 being a classified list of periodicals, annuals, and serials received at the library; and the usual quarterly index to reference lists of other libraries.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. Extension bulletin no. 19, May, 1897. Summer schools: report of summer school divison, 1896. Albany, 1897. p. 32–108. O. 10 c.

A descriptive summary of the various summer schools and conventions meeting in 1897, arranged by states, followed by detailed tabulated statistics of work done in 1896.

—— Public libraries division. New York state travelling libraries, nos. 28–32. *ea.*, Tt.

Nos. 28 and 31 are finding lists of young people's libraries of 25 v. each; the others list selections of general literature, 50 v. each. All but no. 32 are annotated.

—— State Library bulletin, additions no 3. September, 1894. Albany, 1897. 1364 p. O. 75 c.

This portly volume contains the additions made to the state library from Oct. 1, 1890 to April 1, 1894. It is a D. C. classed list, followed by an author list and a full subject index, and in its accuracy of technical detail and comprehensiveness of scope should prove extremely useful as a guide and model in libraries.

—— State Library bulletin. Bibliographies no. 2–4. July, 1897. Reading lists on Colonial New England; travel in North America; history of the 17th century. Albany, 1897. p. 19–92. 10 c.

Contains three excellent bibliographies prepared by students of the library school for graduation examinations. The reading list on "Colonial New England" is by Minnie Cornewell Wilson, class of 1895, and covers p. 19–33; "Travel in North America" (p. 37–60) is a select bibliography, by Charles William Plympton, submitted for graduation in 1891 and revised in 1896; and the reading list on "History of the 17th century" (p. 63–92) is by Grace F. Leonard, of the class of 1895. All the lists are annotated and show careful and painstaking work.

## Bibliografy.

AMERICAN HISTORY. Montgomery, D. H. The students' American history. Bost., Ginn, 1897. 7 + 523 + 55 p. pors. maps, O. $1.55.

Useful as a bibliographical guide to the subject. Over 2000 works of acknowledged merit are cited in the appendix, and there is also a six-page classified list of books on American history.

BOASE, Frederic. Modern English biography, containing many thousand concise memoirs of persons who have died since the year 1850. v. 2 Truro: For the author, 1897. 888 p. 4°.

This volume contains the letters I–Q, and it is arranged on the same lines as the first volume, published in 1892. The index shows that the sketches of 41 librarians are contained in vol. 2, and it also gives the real names of some 249 pseudonymous writers.

CHURCH AND STATE. Johnston, W. Dawson, *and* Jean Browne, *eds.* The relations between church and state, modern, 1547–1869. Ann Arbor, Sheehan, 1897. 58 p. O. (Eng. hist. reprints, no. 2.) 25 c.

Contains a select four-page bibliography with annotations.

CIVIL LISTS. A list of civil lists, for American history. [*In American Historical Review*, v. 2, no. 4, p. 758–766.]

The collection is of lists of civil officers only, and does not extend to other states than the original 13.

DICKENS, Charles. Kitton, F. G. The novels of Charles Dickens: a bibliography and sketch. N. Y., Armstrong, 1897. 8+245 p., por. D. (Book-lovers' lib.) $1.25; $1.50.

FLORIDA LAW. Cole, Theodore Lee. Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states: Florida [from publications of the Southern History Association, July, 1897]. Washington, D. C., Statute Law-Book Co., 1897. p. 211–225. O.

This series of bibliographies, in which Alabama and Arkansas have already appeared, are paged as in the publications of which they are reprints; they do not, as erroneously stated (L. J., June, p. 327), continue the pagination of one another.

MAGAZINES. Faxon, F: W. A bibliography of ephemeral bibelots, from their first issue to June 1, 1897. Boston, Boston Book Co., 1897. 16 p. T. (*Bulletin of Bibliography* pamplets, no. 1.) 25 c.

Reprinted from the June no. of the Boston Book Company's *Bulletin of Bibliography*. About 100 of the various "fad" magazines and ephemeral publications that have sprung up within the last few years are listed. Most of them date from 1895 or later, and the *Chap-book* and the *Yellow Book* are among the pioneers. The list is an interesting revelation of the number and variety of these curious publications.

WORLD'S FAIR CONGRESSES. Charles C. Bonney, whose bibliography of publications growing out of the proceedings of the World's Fair congresses of 1893 was published in the *Dial* of Jan. 1, 1896, contributes to the *Dial* of July 16 a supplementary list on the subject. It includes 23 titles, bringing the total record of these publications up to 127.

*INDEXES.*

INDEXLESS BOOKS. The record of books published within the past month or so without needed indexes comprises "The genesis of Shakespeare's art," by E. J. Dunning (Lee & Shepard); "The dungeons of old Paris," by Tighe Hopkins (Putnam); Chamberlain's "Samuel Sewall and the world he lived in" (De Wolfe); and Walisziewski's "Peter the Great" (Appleton). In the case of the Walisziewski and Hopkins books the omission is particularly regrettable, as both abound in references to historic places and persons.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

"The house of dreams," recently published anonymously by Dodd, Mead & Co., is by W. J. Dawson, author of "London idylls," etc. (*Vide Bookman*, Aug., p. 452.)

"Why we punctuate; by a journalist," published by the Lancet Publishing Co., is by W. L. Klein, editor of the *Northwestern Lancet*, of Minneapolis. P. B. W.

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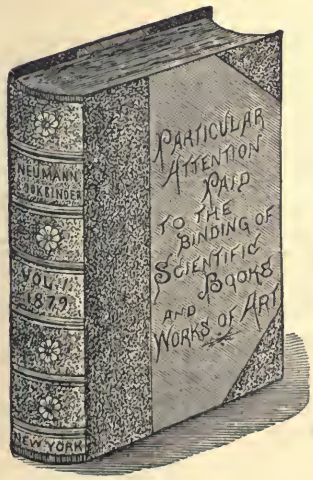


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*Art Amateur*, Sept., 1893.
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*Street Railway Journal*, 1889 to date.
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"No better endorsement of Mr. Allen's Agency is possible than the list of leading libraries that continue to use it. For 30 years, strict integrity and unexcelled facilities have held the old and made new patrons. The very large business built up demands only a small commission. A library can safely entrust all its London orders to Mr. Allen without getting other estimates and feel sure that it is not making a mistake."—MELVIL DEWEY, *State Library, New York.*

# EDW. G. ALLEN'S AMERICAN LIBRARY AGENCY,

28 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, LONDON.

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE new Librarian of Congress continues to give the best of evidence of his intention to make the library worthy of its opportunities, by appointing skilled and fit men in the leading positions. Of the new assistant librarians, A. P. C. Griffin is one of the most experienced and skilled bibliographers in the country, and Arthur R. Kimball, as state librarian of New Hampshire, made an excellent record, which gives promise, in case he should have charge of the division including state publications, of strengthening the national library in a department in which it should be most strong and in which it has been most weak. James C. Hanson, chief of the catalog department, has held a like position for some years in the library of the University of Wisconsin; T: H. Clark, the new superintendent of the Law Library, has not had library experience, but is a man of public service in other departments, who has shown the true library spirit — as in his address on "Historical Alabama," urging the need of collecting material in that state — and there is good reason to hope for his success in this position. It is stated that there have been nearly 7000 applications for the 60 places which the new librarian has filled or has yet to fill in the library — a sufficient commentary on the nature of the task and of the burden upon the executive, who is without any defence from civil service examination rules or methods.

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IT was proposed that the recent visit of American librarians to England should have some permanent memorial, and certainly none could be more fitting than one at the home of the master of English literature, in the church where he lies buried, in a town where such noteworthy hospitality was offered to American visitors. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the librarians who visited England will take part effectively in raising the funds for the completion of the American portion of the memorial window in Shakespeare's church. One subscription of $50 toward the $500 which is understood to be necessary has already been made, and the LIBRARY JOURNAL will be glad to receive further subscriptions in the hope of completing the necessary sum. It is perhaps too much to expect that the money shall be actually given by librarians, especially by those whose purses are now depleted by the unwonted expenditure of the transatlantic journey, but almost every librarian among those who went abroad will have friends within his official library circle who would be glad, if their attention were called to the matter, to contribute their part toward this excellent end. We hope that it will be possible to send to the worthy vicar the means of realizing in tangible fashion the assurances of good-will which so many have reason to feel toward him and toward all the good people of Stratford-on-Avon.

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WE have received an unhappily intemperate communication from Mr. Schwartz, demanding "for what inscrutable reason" an earlier communication of his to the JOURNAL had not been printed, and asking, "are you running the L. J. in the interest of Mr. ———, or of a clique, or in the interest of truth?" We have only to make the simple statement that Mr. Schwartz's previous communication had been standing in type for some months, but was so long that it was crowded out from month to month by material more compact and of more immediate importance. Originality is not of the first importance in library progress, and, indeed, those who have contributed most to library progress have perhaps been least concerned with getting for their work the credit which they really deserved. Questions of originality are usually questions of fact, and if any person considers that a device supposed by its author to be original has been used before in some form or other, either in its central idea or in its detail features, the person who considers himself the originator should not take that suggestion as a personal insult. Mr. Schwartz's paper before the International Library Conference in London was admirably summarized to the conference by Mr. Cutter, but at once called forth the rejoinder on the part of a librarian, who had certainly no personal enmity to Mr. Schwartz, that the scheme presented was already in use in some English libraries. Surely this gentleman was justified in stating what he understood to be a fact, and we trust that Mr. Schwartz may not insist upon feeling personally insulted to the extent of requiring the daring critic to meet him on an international "field of honor."

## Communications.

### THE "COMBINED CHARGING SYSTEM" AND ITS PAST AND FUTURE CRITICS.

In your "Conference" number (v. 21, no. 12, Dec., 1896), I find on page 53, in Mr. Hill's report about the charging system used in the Newark Free Public Library, that he properly credits its foundation or origin to the Evansville Library scheme, which was briefly described by its inventor, Mr. Cadwallader, in the L. J., v. 1, p. 254–5. But when Mr. Hill adds (p. 53 of the Conference no.), "Modifications of this scheme were made by Jacob Schwartz," etc., I must protest against the inference that my system is in any way indebted to the "Evansville." The two schemes are alike only in the sense that the Waldorf Hotel is like an elephant — to borrow a venerable minstrel conundrum — because neither of them can climb a tree! If Mr. Hill will kindly read the brief description of my charging system in L. J., v. 4, p. 275–7, he will see that it reminds him of the "Evansville" in the same way only that the countryman from the wilds of New Jersey, who visited New York City, was reminded of home — "because it was so different."

I believe I was the first one to call attention to the merits of the Evansville system in the L. J., v. 5, p. 73–4. As this article was *written* some months *before* my "Combined" system was published in vol. 4 (as explained in the note, p. 72, and more fully on p. 108 of v. 5), it may possibly account for Mr. Hill's mistake. I am as great an admirer as I ever was of the Evansville system, in its original form (though I cannot say as much for the alleged improvement on it), but I think it is inferior to my system. Perhaps the best way to describe the fundamental difference between the two methods would be to say that everything the Evansville system does, I do just exactly the opposite way, and that every objection that can be made against the Evansville system has been overcome in the Schwartz system. As a proof of its efficiency I may mention that in January, 1896, there were 2139 volumes given out from 1 to 9 o'clock p.m., by eight attendants, whose duties included the charging, discharging, and getting of books, receipt of fines, opening of new accounts, closing of old ones, and the sale of catalogs.

It is curious that my charging system has been compared with various methods with which it has nothing in common by several librarians who ought to have known better if they really knew what my method was (as they should have known) before they ventured to judge it. For instance, in the article describing my plan, in L. J., v. 4, p. 277, there is a note by the editors: "Mr. Cutter is introducing a system on a similar plan into his library." As I knew nothing about Mr. Cutter's method at the time I wrote my article the only inference is that Mr. Cutter had copied from me. On p. 445 of the same v. 4 of the L. J., Mr. Cutter promptly and properly disavowed any connection with my system, and proved it conclusively by giving a succinct account of his own plan. There is no similarity whatever between the two plans, and it is amazing that any one could have thought there was. Mr. Cutter's scheme is an admirable one, and for a library like the Athenæum it is far superior to mine, but my scheme was not designed for such a library. For a large circulating library my system is superior, inasmuch as it takes only half the time that is required to work Mr. Cutter's plan. Like many other ideas that are admirable in their original conception, Mr. Cutter's system has been "improved" (for example, by Foster and Linderfelt), and in my opinion improved for the worse. In both modifications the most original and distinctive feature of Mr. Cutter's plan has been entirely obliterated.

In v. 14 of the L. J., on p. 205–6 of his "Report on charging systems," Mr. H. J. Carr, after describing a method of charging devised by Prof. Jewett, of the Boston Public Library (which Mr. Carr had dug out of the dust-bins of bibliothecal literature), intimated that it was the original of the "Combined charging system." In the same volume (p. 468–9), I demonstrated by a comparison between the two systems that they were as dissimilar as they possibly could be. As Mr. Jewett's plan was never put into practice, and as no one who has written on charging systems, except Mr. Carr, had apparently ever heard of it (it was certainly new to me, and I am pretty familiar with the subject), it is difficult to imagine how Mr. Carr supposed any one could copy a method whose very existence was known only to himself, but since he never made any reply to my rejoinder the natural inference is that he came to the conclusion that he had discovered a mare's nest, and that he let it go at that.

I write this long note not so much to show up past mistakes as I do to request that if it should be necessary for any future report on charging systems to refer to my method, that the reporter will kindly study the articles here referred to, so that he may be able to write about it intelligently and fairly. Or, if that is asking too much, that he favor me by a personal call, when I will be happy to explain the originality, accuracy, completeness, efficiency, and general superiority of my system of charging over any other yet devised in this country for large public libraries. If the journey to the metropolis is too great a hardship, I shall be glad to write a fuller account of my method than has appeared heretofore, in which I will show, by comparison with other systems, wherein the alleged superiority of my plan consists. I suppose I have the same right to be original as any one else, and until there is a law passed against it I shall continue, as I have done heretofore, to devise and perfect my own library economy, and leave it to others to "improve" methods already in use, and by a few unimportant changes pose as original inventors.

JACOB SCHWARTZ.

FREE LIBRARY GENERAL SOCIETY OF MECHANICS AND TRADESMEN; NEW YORK CITY, April, 1897.

## THE PLACE OF BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE EQUIPMENT OF A CULTIVATED MAN.

By Prof. M. D. Bisbee, *Librarian Dartmouth College Library.*

There can be no difference of opinion as to the fact that books are the principal source and means of culture. Directly or indirectly they are almost the sole means, since the personal element which often is so great a feature in education itself must depend upon this source for its development. Culture is the accumulation of mental capital. The capacity for its acquisition is the distinguishing mark of the human over the brute mind. Man possesses what has been called the "power of increment." Sometimes an animal will do better work than a man. The bee constructs her honeycomb with an accuracy that conforms to the most exact mathematical requirements for the greatest strength with the least material. No human work could meet the conditions so perfectly, but the most highly developed bees in the finest modern apiary can produce no more perfect structure than those which gave to Samson the suggestion for his famous riddle. On the other hand, the difference between Mr. Gladstone at work in his library and a naked savage exercising the simplest mental functions is due to one superlative fact, that men can communicate and accumulate thought. Let there be a mind dowered as richly as Plato, with an environment as stimulating as that of Greece, but, left in absolute isolation, it would perish from atrophy as certainly as an animal will die in a vacuum. But let there be a man and another man, or, as we suppose it actually was, a man and a woman, two complementary human minds, communication begins, accumulation follows, and culture has commenced. This is simple and rudimentary at first, but the results are prodigious. All civilization, letters, science, and libraries are the fruit of it, and, indirectly, all human progress also.

And every child that is born into the world inherits by simple birthright the entire mental estate of the world, so far as he is able to take possession. With Tennyson in Locksley Hall he can say:

> "I, the heir of all the ages."

Instead of having to strike out anew for himself, he finds a very well-developed world which he is absolutely free to possess and to improve. He may be a smaller man than his father, but, as he is able to commence where the old man left off, he is deserving of contempt if he cannot hold his own and add something. He can begin his thinking where Socrates and Kant left off. He is

> "owner of the sphere,
> Of the seven stars and the solar year,
> Of Cæsar's hand and Plato's brain,
> Of the Lord Christ's heart and Shakespeare's strain.*

Whoever has been "admitted to the right of reason has been made a freeman of the whole estate. What Plato has thought, he may think; what a saint has felt, he may feel; what at any time has befallen any man, he can understand."†

That boy will make a great mistake, however, who does not see that it has come to be a long climb to his father's shoulders, and that it is growing longer. He must use the best ladders and climb according to the best methods. For the ladder he must look to the library, and for his methods to bibliography. The open door of the library offers a free admission to the accumulated treasures of the world's mind and heart. "College education is the reading of certain books which the common sense of all scholars agrees will represent the science already accumulated."‡ "The true university of these days is a collection of books."

Questions of the greatest importance remain, however. Which are the books that represent the science already accumulated? What is the best method of "reading" them? Upon the correct answer to these questions rests the continuance of the primacy in society of the cultivated man. Mr. Carlyle's "true university" is open to all now, and the multitude is thronging in. Unless the scholar has a better method than the common people of selecting books and "reading" them, his primacy is gone. As it is, many a man and woman in mature life, disappointed in the hope of an education in youth, many a boy and girl, at the counter or lathe all day, are getting a better education through the library and the correspondence school than some careless perfunctory college students.

Nowhere, then, is definite instruction more needed than in bibliography, but nowhere is it more generally neglected. Mr. Emerson long ago demanded that every college should have a

* Emerson. † Ibid. ‡ Ibid.

professorship of books and reading, declaring that no chair is so much needed. Dr. Poole, in perhaps his latest public utterance, repeated the demand, asserting "that the study of bibliography and of the scientific methods of using books should have an assured place in the university curriculum; that a wise and professional bibliographer should be a member of the faculty and have a part in the training of all the students; that the library should be his classroom; and that all who go forth into the world as graduates should have such an intelligent and practical knowledge of books as will aid them in their studies through life, and the use of books be to them a perpetual delight and refreshment. Books are wiser than any professor and all the faculty; and they can be made to give up much of their wisdom to the student who knows where to go for it and how to extract it.

"I do not mean that the university student should learn the contents of the most useful books; but I do mean that he should know of their existence, what they treat of, and what they will do for him. He should know what are the most important general reference-books which will answer not only his own questions, but the multitude of inquiries put to him by less favored associates who regard him as an educated man. The words Watt, Larousse, Graesse, Quérard, Hoefer, Kayser, Hinrichs, Meyer, Hain, and Vapereau should not be unmeaning sounds to him. He should know the standard writers on a large variety of subjects. He should be familiar with the best methods by which the original investigation of any topic may be carried on. When he has found it he appreciates, perhaps for the first time, what books are for and how to use them. He finds himself a professional literary or scientific worker, and that books are the tools of his profession.

"No person has any claim to be a scholar until he can conduct such an original investigation with ease and pleasure. This facile proficiency does not come by intuition, nor from the clouds. Where else is it to be taught, if not in the college or university? With it a graduate is prepared to grapple with his professional studies, to succeed in editorial work, or in any literary or scientific pursuit for which he may have the taste and qualification."*

But little attention has yet been given to this call. We study the origin, transmission, and survival of minerals, vegetables, animals, and the institutions of society; we study the development of language, commerce, and finance, the movements of armies and navies; but that which makes all this study possible, that which contains the record of human effort and furnishes the stairway for further progress, we leave to take care of itself.

The candidate for liberal culture is embarrassed by the enormous size of the great collection of books. Of the number of volumes from which a modern student must make his selection a good example is furnished by the library of the British Museum. This single collection now numbers nearly 2,000,000, and requires about 60 miles of shelving. The catalog, including cross-references, contains nearly 3,000,000 titles, and requires 600 volumes. The annual additions are about 60,000. How this growth is to be managed is a serious question. Mr. Gladstone would seem to be justified in the fear he is reported to have expressed that the English people are in danger of being crowded into the sea by great libraries. And this is not the largest collection in the world. The Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris is considerably larger; indeed, no one knows how large it is.

More than 5000 new works are issued annually in England, and double that number in France and Germany. Of course we have no such embarrassments of riches in this country, but the Boston Public Library has upwards of 600,000 volumes, while the Library of Congress has at least 100,000 more. Now, what could be more helpless than a man turned loose in one of these vast store-houses and left to his own resources?

A second embarrassment to the student arises from the larger use made of books in modern methods of investigation and instruction. The day of the single text-book is over. The time is long past when any educational institution can maintain its position and presume to teach physics, chemistry, or biology without laboratories and laboratory methods. The time has fully come when no respectable institution thinks of teaching history, economics, literature, almost anything in fact, without departmental libraries and seminary methods.

The departmental library, as its name indicates, is a small collection of books pertaining to the work of a particular department, and located most conveniently for its use. Usually, it consists in part of books withdrawn from the central library during the progress of a particu-

* "The university library and the university curriculum."

lar course. Generally it is located near the lecture-room of the department, and each member of the division has a key and free access to the room during the day and evening, with such supervision and assistance as the instructor may choose to give. A better location would be in special rooms in the central library building, where the general reference and stack rooms also would be available.

Dr. Winsor, the learned librarian of Harvard University, appears to think that this method of work originated with him at a date quite recent. He would be surprised to learn that as early as 1825 a library of this nature was instituted in Dartmouth College by a few students enthusiastic in their devotion to the classic languages and literature. Among them were Alpheus Crosby and others who became eminent scholars. I never have been able to understand why so excellent an invention was allowed to slumber. Since it was instituted at Harvard its progress there and elsewhere has been rapid, and there is no danger that it ever will go out of use again.

The seminar, or seminary, refers more especially to a particular method of the use of books in the investigation of a subject. It originated some 60 years ago in the University of Berlin, where Leopold von Ranke, the great historian, sought to interest a few of his most promising pupils in better methods of historical investigation. His success was such that these pupils became the professors of history for the next generation, and instituted the magic "seminar" wherever they went. The principle of the method now is universally accepted, but its application varies according to the idiosyncrasies of different professors. In general, as outlined by Prof. Emerton, it consists of a careful and exhaustive study upon some well-defined point, using original materials as far as possible. The topics are assigned individually at the opening of the course, and all available material is collected, sifted, and thoroughly systematized. The results are embodied in a carefully-written thesis to be read before the class, criticised by some one specially appointed, by the division generally, and, of course, by the instructor. For this work, the largest library resources are essential, including pamphlets, newspapers, and manuscripts. One such piece of work, well done, will give a man a knowledge of books which he could get in no other way, and enable him to conduct an original investigation with profit and pleasure. Many mistakes have been made in attempting to use these methods where they are not applicable. Neither the departmental library nor the seminary are adapted to undergraduate work, with large divisions in required subjects, but in small elective divisions, and especially in graduate courses, no other methods are to be tolerated.

The difficulty of finding adequate material for such work is much greater than would be supposed. It was said some years ago that the materials for the thorough study of the "New England primer" did not exist in this country. Even the British Museum does not contain much more than half of the books that have appeared in English, and it is stated upon the highest authority that for the investigation of but few subjects does it furnish more than half of the desired material.

Scarcely less embarrassing to the cultivated man is his relation to current thought. He must have the latest information, but with the Library of Congress receiving from 40,000 to 50,000 accessions a year from copyright alone, with the perpetual inundation of books, magazines, pamphlets, and papers, the question of dealing with the present is sufficiently troublesome without reference to the past.

What, then, is the remedy? First, of course, specialization. The day of the universal scholar is passed, and, I sometimes fear, that of general culture also. One must choose his specialty early and concentrate upon it intensely. Still, one will make a mistake if he does not reserve a part of himself for general culture, especially in current thought. The specialist is always in danger of becoming a hobbyist, and special knowledge, to be of highest use, must keep in touch with general knowledge.

In both fields, however, the assistance of bibliography is essential. The rapid growth and development of this comparatively new science is phenomenal and most gratifying.

The first of these aids is the catalog. Commencing probably with a mere list of titles, it has developed into the exhaustive index and dictionary. A student would find little comfort in being confronted with 2,000,000 titles. If life did not end before he had run through them, at least his subject would be out of date and, in the meantime, the avalanche of new titles is burying him deeper and deeper. Hence he welcomes the assistance rendered by classification, whereby the books on different subjects are arranged and cataloged by themselves. But, so far as the catalog is concerned, his trials are

not yet over, because so many titles are misleading. If his subject is "bibliology," or "co-education," he will be very likely to pass over Mr. Ruskin's exquisite little book, "Sesame and lilies," and thereby make a great mistake. Costly omissions are likely to occur with such titles as "Obiter dicta," "Over the teacups," and many others. Hence the need of another device known as the "subject catalog," including all matter on a subject whatever be the title. But often the most important matter is contained in some part of a book, in the pamphlet of a learned society, or a periodical, which makes the most useful device of all the "index" or "dictionary catalog," which aims to include in one alphabetical list references to all available matter. Among the more conspicuous examples of this class are the catalogs of the Boston Athenæum, the Peabody Institute, and the Library of the Surgeon-General's Office.

No single work of this kind, however, can be universal in its scope, much less kept up to date, which makes it necessary that there should be provided an indefinite number of specific works of this kind, generally called bibliographies. These already are numerous, and becoming more so every day, so that a bibliography of bibliographies will soon be necessary. For old and rare books the cultivated man, and especially the book fancier, must have recourse to the great standards, Brunet, Graesse, and Lowndes, and the more important sale catalogs. For periodical literature "Poole's index" must be within easy reach.

It is important also to know the location and contents of the more important special collections, like the Ticknor on Spanish literature, and the Barton on Shakespeare in the Boston Public Library; those on the French Revolution and Dante at Cornell; the Harris collection on American poetry at Brown University; the Marsh collection at the University of Vermont; the collections on music at the Newberry Library in Chicago, and those on Shelley and Dante at Harvard.

Valuable bibliographies are appearing also on individuals like Browning and Whittier; upon the literature of commonwealths, like Maine and Wisconsin; upon particular sciences, like chemistry, meteorology, and sociology.

Finally, it is essential to know where to find authoritative information as to the quality of new books. The difference between an advertising puff, or the blind praise of a callow ignoramus, who writes to secure another volume from its publisher, and the work of a qualified reviewer in a journal like the *Athenæum*, whose word can give success or damn forever, must be clearly understood. With such an equipment, faithfully used, the primacy of the cultivated man is safe.

## CORPORATE ENTRY: FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

I. — By Charles A. Cutter, *Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.*

When Mr. Fletcher published in the November, 1896, number of the Library Journal his objections to the practice of "corporate authorship" entry in cataloging I was too busy to state the reasons for my disagreement. I find now that silence is supposed to have given assent. Because I did not oppose I am thought to have accepted his amendment to the "Rules for a dictionary catalogue."

I cannot allow the matter to rest so, although I find on examination that the practical difference between us is not of so great importance as one might suppose. In statement our principles are radically different, but by adjustments on his side and exceptions on mine our practices would not be far apart.

I adhere unreservedly to the principle of corporate authorship as stated in the Rules (3d ed., p. 27–33), although I still feel the difficulty of choosing among the various ways of carrying out that principle in regard to the names of societies. In regard to government publications there are no such difficulties. In other words, I think the American practice of regarding bodies of men as the authors of their own journals, proceedings, etc., and as collecting-editors of the collections issued by them is preferable to the German practice of dispersing these works throughout the alphabet under the noun which happens to be first in the title.

The American way is preferable for two reasons: first, because as a matter of fact these bodies *are* the authors not only of their own proceedings but also of their collections regarded as a whole; secondly, because as a matter of convenience, both in the enlargement of the li-

brary and in the service of the public, it is better that all the books connected with the name of a society or government should be brought together in one place. It is true that in a dictionary catalog this may be accomplished more or less inappropriately by entry under the name of the society as a subject; but in an author catalog it does not come about at all. If you want to find in Kayser's list of the books published in Germany in the last five years *all* the publications of a German learned body you must look under Abhandlungen, Almanach, Annalen, Arbeiten, Archiv, Aufsätze, Beiträge, Bericht, Bibliothek, Bulletin, Centralblatt, Correspondenzblatt, Ephemeriden, Erläuterungen, Jahrbuch, Jahresbericht, Journal, Kalender, Magazin, Memoiren, Mittheilungen, Monatsblatt, Nachrichten, Preisschrift, Programm, Publicationen, Repertorium, Resultate, Sammlung, Schriften, Sitzungsberichte, Studien, Tageblatt, Tagebuch, Uebersicht, Verzeichniss, Versammlungen, Vierteljahrschrift, Vorlesungen, and Zeitschrift, because the works may be under any one of these, and if by racking your brain you remember all of them and have patience to look them all up, you yet are not sure that there is not something important hidden away under some other word which you may think of when it is too late — Verhandlungen, for instance.

But I find that Mr. Fletcher, although he says "Every year that I use the German system as to corporate entries strengthens my feeling that it is the only sensible and satisfactory plan," does not follow the German plan at all. He enters, not under PROCEEDINGS of the Royal Society, but under ROYAL SOCIETY, Proceedings of, as a title entry. That is to say he takes the name of the society as it happens to appear on the title-page and inverts the title, so as to get it first. If it appears as Academia Caesaro-Leopoldina, that work will be entered under Academia; if in another work the same society appears as Kaiserliche-Königliche Akad. d. Wissenschaften, that work will be entered under Kaiserliche. One German academy would necessarily appear under (1) ACADÉMIE Royale for its early "Mémoires," when the French influence prevailed in Germany, (2) KÖNIGLICHE Akademie for later works, and (3) ACADEMIA Litterarum Regia for one of its longest and most important publications. Of course you can partly get over this objectionable dispersion of works that ought to be entered together by putting all societies first under the name of the place where their headquarters are, but even then in those cities where there are many societies there will be a certain amount of mixing up of different ones and tearing apart the works of those which have put their names in different languages or in different forms on the title-page; and if this is avoided by adopting one form for all, what is that but an abandonment of the title-entry idea and a return to author entry? It appears to me much like going out of the front door with a flourish of trumpets — a German horn in this case — and running round to go in at the back door.

So much for societies. Government publications fall into two classes — onymous and anonymous. As to the first, the Rules as well as Mr. Fletcher, catalog all works which have an author under his name. But the Rules direct that if issued by the government they should also appear either in full *or by a reference*, according to circumstances, under the department of government which issues them. A small library may very well omit this, that is one of the many economies which are permissible to small libraries; but no large library is well cataloged unless it has lists (at least by reference) of all the works for which each department has made itself responsible.

As to the second class, the anonymous issues, I cannot see the advantage of entering them under the first word. Either (1) they are the journals, reports, etc., of which even Mr. Fletcher allows that the government is the author and puts them (unlike the Germans) under the country, or (2) they relate to the country, in which case Mr. Fletcher puts them also under the country, but in a subject division and not under the department, or (3) they do not relate to the country. As to (1) we agree; as to (2) I have no objection whatever to full entry under a country-subject heading alone, provided there is entry by reference under the name of the department. In the example which Mr. Fletcher quoted from the Athenæum catalog the full entry was under the department and the reference under the subject. It makes very little difference, as the two entries must come within a few pages of each other. When they come on the same page the reference is perhaps unnecessary. The best place for the full entry depends on the object of the catalog.

There remains only (3) the few anonymous works published by a department which do not relate to the country. Whether or not they

ought to be entered under the first word like any other anonymous work, it seems to me that there should be an entry under the department, which even more than in the case of works issued with their authors' names, must be supposed to adopt the opinions of the work and assume responsibility for it.

Before the Rules were made catalogs seemed to me to be somewhat chaotic collections of empirical entries. I tried to find a few simple principles around which all desirable practices could be grouped. One of those principles is corporate authorship and editorship. I have as yet seen nothing to convince me that it is not a good one, since it corresponds to fact, inasmuch as societies are the authors of their proceedings and the collectors of their series; it is convenient in practice for complete cataloging; and for incomplete cataloging it admits of economies which produce all the effects of Mr. Fletcher's rejection of the principle with none of the disadvantages of his method.

II. — By Edith E. Clarke, *Public Documents Library, Washington, D. C.*

In an article on Corporate Entry in the Library Journal for November, 1896, Mr. Fletcher, with his usual keen intellect, points out a weak spot in the catalog of the Boston Athenæum Library, usually accepted as the exponent of Cutter's "Rules for a dictionary catalog." But, unfortunately, the remedy which he proposes for this defect is itself objectionable, and the directions which he gives in this article are liable to lead the inexperienced cataloger into devious ways and involve the catalog in great confusion.

The fault itself is one which can be very simply adjusted, but it becomes more detrimental in the card catalog than in print. Mr. Fletcher says there result "confusion and reduplication of entries, if the corporate authorship idea is allowed to prevail." He cites as examples of this "confusion and reduplication of entries" the entries under Massachusetts. "There are 10 pages of 'Mass. as author' and 5 pages of 'Mass. as subject.' In the first section we find the subheading 'Board of Education' with entries for the different sets of educational reports of Massachusetts. In the second section we have again the heading 'Education' [in Mass. as a subject], but the reports . . . are not entered under this heading."

The "confusion and reduplication" here are caused by the arrangement, by the separation of the subheadings under Massachusetts into an author group and a subject group. I trust the following method of avoiding this may commend itself to the use of librarians. Let there be but one alphabet of subheadings. Education should be the subheading for the publications both of the Massachusetts Board of Education and of personal authors. The information that the Massachusetts Board of Education is the corporate author of certain of these works need not be omitted. It may either be included as part of the title, as, "Report of the Board of Education of Massachusetts," or, where the title does not easily allow that, it may be added, enclosed in parentheses, at the end of title and imprint, thus: (Massachusetts Board of Education.) An example in detail of this combination of author, subject, and even catchword subheadings may be seen in the "Document catalogue of the 53d Congress," issued by the Superintendent of Documents, under the heading District of Columbia.

It is remarkable that Mr. Fletcher's practice seems to be exactly identical with that of this example, if one may judge from his own description. He says: "Our catalog exhibits the U. S. documents as well as books of any kind relative to the U. S., entered under the U. S., with subheadings of which the following is a partial list: Agriculture, Army, Atlases, Attorney-General, Banking. . . ." But these entries, although admirable, are decidedly *not* instances of following Dziatzko's rule, which he states in the preceding paragraph that he follows. I rather suspect that Mr. Fletcher substitutes these "sometimes subject, sometimes series" entries under countries of which he gives examples for the anonymous title entry which his rule requires.

"Dziatzko . . . considers all works issued by corporate bodies as anonymous for the purposes of entry." Anonymous entry is always title entry, and it must be remembered that with the Germans and British title entry differs from the American title entry, and is not under the first word, but under the chief subject word of the title, inverting the title to bring that word first. Thus the "25th annual list of merchant vessels of the United States," issued by the U. S. Bureau of Navigation, would be entered by the German catalogs as "Merchant vessels of the United States, 25th annual list of," ignoring its being prepared in the U. S. Bureau of Navigation.

Catchword title entry — and that is all that title entry ever is, a catchword — is the most treacherous thing in the world, for it is restricted to the use of words actually appearing on the title-page. It lands you in the most unforeseen predicaments. It would put a book translated into 40 different languages in 40 different places in the catalog. As an *added* entry it may be used *ad libitum*, but it should not be depended on for fulfilling any but a single one of the aims of a catalog, that, namely, of finding a special book. A catalog should do more than this one thing. Knowing the shape and size of the bottle you want, you can go to the cupboard and quickly select the one desired from a great variety all huddled together on the shelf. But your cupboard would better have all the medicines and the like on one side, and all the jam and preserves on the other, so that you may readily see how many jars of jam you have on hand. So a catalog is not a satisfactory register of the contents of a library unless, so far as it goes, no matter what is omitted for economy, it puts all the works of an author together, all the books on a certain subject under one selected caption for that subject, all the publications of a society or corporate body under one entry for that society or corporate body, not scattering them all over in different places. Economy may demand references, instead of entries, and convenience may require differing arrangements of the information contained in the entry such as I described at the beginning of this paper. But order must be preserved, and this can never be done by depending on title entry.

Title entry, when inverted, is objectionable because it dislocates the order of the phrase forming the title. Any kind of title entry is objectionable typographically in a printed catalog, because it forces the leading word to be repeated in each entry, instead of repetition being indicated by indention or dashes.

House of the seven gables.
House that Jack built.

These are genuine added title entries. They do not aim to supplant either an author or subject entry, and are unobjectionable on that account. But —

Horse, Methods of breaking in the; by John Smith.
Horse, Tales of a; by William Jones.

would be much better written:

HORSE.

Jones, William. Tales of a horse.
Smith, John. Methods of breaking in the horse.

Similarly,

Smithsonian contributions to knowledge.
Smithsonian Institution, Account of the.
Smithsonian Institution, Annual report of the.
Smithsonian Institution, List of the publications of the.
Smithsonian miscellaneous collections.

would be better arranged thus:

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Account of the Institution.
Annual report.
List of publications.
Smithsonian contributions to knowledge.
Smithsonian miscellaneous collections.

Cutter's 5th plan for corporate entry, which he says he himself thinks is the best, was used by me in the Columbia College Library and the Newberry Library catalogs with perfect satisfaction. And I frequently regretted, as I used the British Museum catalog of academies, and Bolton's and Scudder's bibliographies of society publications, that they should have adopted the old-time custom of entering societies under the place. When, on coming to the Public Documents Library, I was confronted with the customary "Letter from the Secretary of the Interior transmitting a copy of the report of the government directors of the Union Pacific Railway Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1894," I at first thought, in the midst of these perplexities Cutter's rules will not direct me. But closer consideration convinced me that here also the golden principle, "Bodies of men are to be considered as authors of works published in their name or by their authority" was the only clue to the labyrinth.

The staff of the Public Documents Library could not shelve, catalog, nor refer with any accuracy to the government publications in their charge did they not hold fast to the cardinal principle above enunciated. With Cutter's rule for corporate entry as a guiding star and the table of "Governmental authors" appended to the "Document catalogue of the 53d Congress" as a pilgrim staff, catalogers will find the labyrinth of public documents a plain and easy road to travel.

## BOOKS FOR MOTHERS' CLUBS.

By Linda A. Eastman, *Cleveland (O.) Public Library.*

A promising adjunct to the system of public education lies in the Mothers' Clubs, which of late have begun to do a good work. The Mothers' Club idea is rife with possibilities for good, and nowhere more so than in connection with the public schools. By bringing parents and teachers into closer touch and sympathy, by bringing together the mothers whose children are associated daily in school-room and play-ground, and, most of all, by arousing the mothers to a serious interest in child study, with reference to the nature and needs of their own children, the Mothers' Club is proving its worth so fully that its friends are longing to see the time when the monthly mothers' meeting shall be a regular thing in every school-house in the land.

Three years ago, in one of the outlying districts of Cleveland, the doubtful experiment of a mothers' meeting in connection with the public school was tried, an experiment which was looked at askance by most of the teachers of the city, in spite of the fact that it was working successfully elsewhere. The mothers of the district are the wives of workingmen, largely German and Irish by birth or descent, who, like their few American neighbors, have had no advantages in the way of education; there is probably not a college-bred woman among them, and very few who were ever inside of a high school. It was a difficult place in which to begin with a Mothers' Club, but the teachers were earnest and tactful, and the meetings grew and flourished.

Last year an adjoining district adopted the plan, and the Public Library was looked to for co-operation in the work; to one of these districts a selection of 108 books was sent for the use of the mothers, to the other 36, the principals taking the responsibility for their care and issue.

One meeting of the Mothers' Club was devoted to the questions, What shall I read? and What shall my child read?, and a member of the library staff gave a simple, informal talk on the power of books as a factor in the home life. It was a touching sight, that school-room crowded with women — some of them with the little ones that could not be left alone at home, one mother at the back of the room with her baby, where she could pace the floor to keep it quiet — listening, for the most part, with an interest so intense as to be almost painful; and afterward to see them waiting in the gathering twilight to get a book and then hurry off home lest the supper be belated! For the most part they chose the books which had been especially mentioned in the talk, for they need direction, some of them, almost as much as the children do.

The books sent them were simple and practical books on the care and training of children, household economy and sanitation, home nursing, family ethics, house planning, flower gardening, some sweet, wholesome stories of home life, and a little choice miscellany in the shape of poetry, history, and a bright book of biography or travel. They included, among others, the following books:

Abel — Sanitary and economic cooking.
Anders — House plants as sanitary agents.
Baby John.
Beebe — Home occupations for little children.
Bellows — How not to be sick.
Benton — Home nursing.
Blow *and* Elliott — Mottoes and commentaries of Froebel's mother plays.
Campbell — Easiest way in housekeeping.
Colin *and* Sheldon — Everybody's book of correct conduct.
Dewey — How to teach manners.
Dodge — Nursery noonings.
Du Bois — Beckonings from little hands.
Gibson — Convenient houses.
Harrison — Study of child nature.
Holt — Care and feeding of children.
Jackson — Bits of talk on home matters.
Jacobi — Infant diet.
Lewis — Our girls.
Mulock — His little mother.
Parental don'ts.
Paull — Seed thoughts for mothers.
Perez — First three years of childhood.
Plunkett — Women, plumbers, and doctors.
Sherriff — Kindergarten at home.
Starr — Hygiene of the nursery.
Starrett — Letters to elder daughters.
Stowe — House and home papers.
Terhune — Common sense in the household.
Trumbull — Hints on child training.
Wiggin — Children's rights.
Winterburn — Nursery ethics.
Williams, *ed.* — Window gardening.

A little list of the books was printed for distribution throughout the district, in order that the mothers might select their books without having to go themselves to the school building for them, and also to reach the mothers who did not attend the meeting.

The lists were headed:

HELPS IN HOME PROBLEMS FOR MOTHERS AND HOME-MAKERS; WITH SOME PLEASANT BOOKS FOR RESTFUL READING.

Any of the books in the following list may be drawn for home reading from the ——— st. School by mothers living in the district. If you cannot go yourself send a note by one of your children to the teacher or principal (naming several books, in case your first choice should be in circulation), and a book will be sent you.

The principals of five of the school districts have already asked to be supplied with books for the mothers for the coming school year, and it seems probable that, as is the case with the books issued to the children through the schools, the limit to this work may soon be in the supply of books which the library can furnish rather than in the demand for them. But it seems to be a demand well worth meeting, and one which may be far-reaching in its results.

## THE DENVER UNION CATALOG OF MEDICAL LITERATURE.

ONE of the latest examples of co-operative library work is the union catalog of medical literature recently completed in Denver. The work was undertaken, as already described in the JOURNAL (March, p. 156), by Dr. C. C. Spivak, of the Colorado Medical Library Association, with the approval of that association and the assistance of the public library. Dr. Spivak's plan, which was presented to the association in December last, was, briefly, to supplement the library of the association — which is housed by the public library as a separate collection and used for public reference — by a catalog of the medical books owned by local physicians who were willing to allow their libraries to be used for consultation by others. This union catalog was to be kept at the library for reference use, thus making available to medical men a much larger collection than it would be possible for the library or the association alone to provide.

In the June number of the *Colorado Medical Record* Dr. Spivak reports the successful accomplishment of the work. He states that the private libraries of 29 physicians were placed at his service, and that a card catalog — author, title, and subject — of all books and journals not contained in the public library has been prepared, on which is stated in whose office the books or journals listed are to be found, and at what hours they may be consulted by the public. This catalog has been placed in the medical department of the public library. It makes available for reference 845 books and 163 bound medical journals, or a total of 2182 volumes. The result, says Dr. Spivak, "has exceeded our most sanguine expectations," and the promptness and success with which the work has been carried through is not only interesting in itself, but is a direct encouragement to similar work in other libraries.

## IN MEMORIAM — WILLIAM RICE, D.D.

THOSE most closely associated with our revered librarian, Dr. William Rice, can best realize how he was the centre and head of the library work in the city of Springfield, and how his best monument is the institution known as the Springfield City Library Association.

Dr. Rice was a native and almost a life-long resident of the town and city where his best work was done, and his life is an exception to the saying "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country." He was born on March 10, 1821, and early developed scholarly tastes; though, always of slight frame and frail health, he was unequal to the ordeal of college life. At the close of his academic career at the Wesleyan Academy in Wilbraham, Mass., he was licensed at the age of 19 years to preach in the Methodist Church. After about 15 years poor health compelled him to relinquish pastoral work. He kept up, however, the practice of preaching, and was called upon from time to time in this way. For some years he was chaplain of the jail in Springfield; he was connected with the school board of the city and of the state for 20 years, and was a trustee of both Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham, and Wesleyan University at Middletown, Ct. Always in touch with the educational movements of the time, he was prominent in all that concerned the welfare of his fellow-townsmen — an active worker in all that conduced to the good of the community. But it was with the City Library that he was best known and will be most missed.

After his return to Springfield Dr. Rice was asked to take charge of the library of the City Library Association, which had been formed in 1857 by combining two small libraries of the Springfield Institute and Young Men's Literary Association. In 1861, when Dr. Rice assumed the duties of librarian, the library contained about 6800 volumes with a list of 280 subscribers. It was housed in a room in the city hall, but no financial aid was given by the city, aside from room, light, and heat. To this work Dr. Rice at once gave his best energies, bringing the collection of books into order and building up the nucleus of a fine library, soliciting subscriptions to its funds and donations of books.

In 1864 a new charter of incorporation was taken out, giving greater power to the association, and for the first time an appropriation was made by the city towards the expenses of the library, in return for which free use of the books on the premises was given to the inhabitants of the city of Springfield. The quarters in the city hall were speedily outgrown, and largely by personal appeals and unwearied effort on the part of Dr. Rice, funds were obtained for the present library building, which was erected in 1871, at a cost of $100,000. There were placed in the new building about 25,000 volumes, arranged and classified, with good catalogs, according to the best methods of the day. Provision was made for 70,000 or 80,000 volumes, and people wondered if the building would ever be filled; but the growth, both in books and the use of them, steadily

went on, and to-day the number of books is not far short of 100,000. In 1881 a free reading-room in connection with the library was opened.

A few years later, when it was desired to make the library free to the public, Dr. Rice made earnest and successful efforts to insure the growth of the reference department by securing endowments for that purpose — amounting now to $60,000, with as much more not yet realized. As a token of his deep interest in the subject, he himself left a legacy of $5000 to the theological department. What was then a new departure in library organization was also effected, by which the management of the library was vested in the directors of the City Library Association, who, as an incorporated association, held the property; while the city government was represented on this board *ex-officio* by the mayor, president of the common council, and superintendent of schools. The city government appropriates a certain sum annually for library expenses, and endowment funds, life-membership fees, etc., add to the income. The library was made free in 1885. In 1886 a new step in the line of progress was taken when the use of teachers' cards was introduced, and the special use of books by students in the schools was encouraged.

When one of our citizens generously proposed bequeathing to the city or the library association his fine art collection, Dr. Rice co-operated with him most fully in rousing public interest. Through their efforts, aided by others of the directors, an art building or museum worthy of the collection has been erected at a cost of $125,000, entirely by subscription and bequest. At the annual meeting of the City Library Association in 1892, Dr. Rice was honored by an unanimous resolution to christen the new art building with his name. This he absolutely declined, and the resolution was withdrawn, to be replaced by another: "That the present library building of the City Library Association shall be known henceforth as the William Rice building, in honor of the man whose devotion to the city and the institution inspired its erection, and whose service has filled it with treasures of knowledge and wisdom for the free use of all the people." The art building was completed in 1895, and is opened to the public on every afternoon for free use.

It was in his personal influence that Dr. Rice was most distinguished and successful. He held to the fullest degree the confidence of his fellow-townsmen, and knowing that his work was done from the highest motives and desire to benefit the city, they were always willing to listen to his suggestions and fall in with his views. His wide range of reading, liberal views, cultivated tastes, and sound judgment eminently fitted him to be not only librarian of our library, but the leader and guide of the people in what has been well called "the people's university." It is mainly to his unwearied devotion and labors that the Springfield Library has attained so high rank among the libraries of the country. And now he rests from his labors, but his works do follow him and shall perpetuate his memory. MARY MEDLICOTT.

## AFFAIRS AT THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

WITH the first of September the great work of removing the contents of the Congressional Library from the old building to the new was begun with energy. The old library was closed to the public and the process of removal was undertaken by the entire force under the general supervision of Mr. Young, Mr. Spofford, and Mr. Green. It is estimated that about six weeks will be required for the work, but the library will be settled and comparatively at home in its magnificent new building some time before Congress assembles. A feature of the removal is the use of "chutes," down which the boxes of books slide from the upper stacks and galleries to the ground. These chutes are simply long plank troughs, which are placed to span the distance between the high galleries and the floor of the old building and between the top and bottom of the main outside staircase on the east front of the capitol facing the new library building. To fit in these chutes 60 or 70 boxes have been constructed, of a size permitting one shelfful of books to be laid in each neatly and without disarrangement. The books are then placed, by shelf loads, in the boxes, each load being previously labelled to denote the exact place it is to occupy in the new building. The boxes are placed in the first chute, slid over the well-soaped planks to the floor, then carried by porters to the outer chute, slid down that, caught by other laborers, and loaded into express wagons carrying from 18 to 20 boxes each. A watchman accompanies each cartload of books.

Arrived at the new building, each boxful of books is subjected to a cleansing process devised by Mr. Green, who has utilized for the purpose the great pneumatic air-tank installed in the basement of the new building for the automatic pneumatic tunnel service between the library and the capitol. A long hose, with a nozzle like that of a watering-pot, has been connected with the air-tank. This nozzle is turned on the books and the stop-cock is opened, sending a hard blast of air against all the exposed surfaces of the books, and raising clouds of dust, even from volumes supposed to have been previously cleansed. So far the only insect discovered in the work of removal has been the cockroach, which does not injure the old books, but is attracted by the paste on the new. The books, after this thorough dusting, are placed in the new stacks according to the shelf-location directions previously prepared. The work of writing and pasting shelf-number labels for the individual books is also in process, and occupies a special force of assistants. During the removal from 20 to 60 extra temporary workers are employed. The new library will be open for inspection throughout the work, only the stacks and the special collection rooms being closed to the public.

When the library is thoroughly established in the new building it is planned to widely extend and improve many of its departments, and to bring it more closely in touch with public needs than it has ever been. The art department, lo-

cated in the special quarters designed for it in what is known as the "south curtain," on the first floor, will be made specially attractive by permanent exhibits of prints, engravings, and photographs; the music department will be rearranged to permit the fullest use practicable; and in the department of maps and charts the fine collections long buried for lack of space in the crypts of the capitol will be arranged for ready consultation, and the rarest and most notable specimens will be displayed as an historical and geographical exhibit. A department for the blind will be established in the Pompeiian room on the first floor. In it will be collected the large accumulation of books, papers and music in raised print, crowded out of sight in the old building. This will be increased by all possible means, a catalog will be printed in raised letters, and the department, which will be in charge of a qualified attendant, will be made as comprehensive and available as possible to meet the needs of its special readers. It is also probable that the hours of opening of the library will be extended to 10 o'clock at night during the next session of Congress.

In the way of material comfort several new departures are contemplated; among them the establishment of two smoking-rooms, one for senators and representatives, the other for the general public; a kitchen and restaurant are being fitted up on the top floor, and are expected to be in full operation when the regular work of the library begins; and bicycle racks are to be established in the basement of the new building.

## "WHY THERE WAS NO STRIKE."

At the London International Library Conference the Public Library of Butte, Mont., was represented by Rev. de Putron Glidden, a member of the board of trustees. In the Anaconda (Mont.) *Standard* of July 29, Mr. Glidden gives at some length his impressions of the conference and relates the following incident, which was, indeed, one of the most striking that occurred during the convention: "The Butte delegate had listened to a debate on classification, and how to do it, and in the course of his remarks, spoke of the Butte Public Library and its excellent librarian. The speaker mentioned an incident which happened in Butte some time ago, when there was a talk about a strike being possible. He was going up Broadway at night and met a miner whom he knew, and asked him whether there was to be a strike, and whether the men were likely to be led astray by bad leadership. His sidewalk companion spoke about the matter for awhile, and then they came in sight of the northeast corner of the public library, and the miner said to him: 'No, I don't think the boys will be badly led away. They have learned to think a bit, and they learned lots of it there' (pointing to the library). Again and again this story has been referred to, and our library and librarian will not be forgotten by many of the delegates."

## THE CHILDREN'S ROOM.

The Examining Committee of the Boston Public Library, in the 45th report of that library, make some interesting suggestions for increasing the attractiveness of the children's room. "In no part of the library," they say, "is it so necessary that there should be active life and variety. It would be practicable that a large table should be loaded with books, maps, and pictures, illustrative of subjects of current interest. Children learn more quickly than adults from suggestion, and no device should be neglected to lead them early into the delights of substantial reading. The cheap papers and novels spare no pains to attract children, and, unless the library is prepared to cope with these foes of good taste, it will lose its hold upon many boys and girls at the most impressionable age. Especially is it advisable that books with many pictures should be ready to the hand of children. Many a book which seems to an adult over the head of a 12-year-old boy will be found intensely interesting to him when he has once been beguiled by illustrations into beginning it. For example, books on Cuba, or on Constantinople, or on modern Athens, might well be laid within reach of the children at the present moment, and, even if they were slightly injured by the use made of them, they would be doing service of a sort to make good citizens.

"The plea may again be entered that there should be a fine, large modern globe in the children's room, and that a map of the United States should be hung in a conspicuous place in the room.

"Fifteen-minute talks on books, given by men and women who know how to talk about literature, would be an invaluable adjunct to the work of the children's room, and would certainly attract even more children to the library on Saturdays."

## A COURSE IN BIBLIOLOGY IN DARTMOUTH COLLEGE.

This course was a junior elective of 30 hours, and was conducted on the plan of securing the largest amount of actual handling of books. After a few preliminary exercises devoted to showing the place of the subject in a college course and securing familiarity with bibliographical apparatus and library methods, a week was given to each of several distinct subjects, with one lecture, one quiz, and the rest of the time given to reports presented in writing. Each member of the division was assigned to some special phase of the general subject, so that no two did the same work, but all had the benefit of the work of the others. The first week was given to leading books on important subjects, each report calling for a selected list of books, with careful estimates and quotations from standard reviews.

The next week was devoted to great periodicals, requiring sketches of leading reviews, magazines, and papers, with their editors, their more important contributors, the permanent

literature that first appeared in them, their literary and political influence, etc.

The next week was spent upon the publications of learned societies, like the Smithsonian, state historical societies, etc.

The fourth week was given a wider range, taking up the work of the leaders of the Renaissance, the literary monks, the part taken by the monasteries, the early universities, the early printers of Venice, Paris, Holland, and Germany, great critics, and special collections.

At the close of the course each student read a carefully-prepared thesis upon such topics as the relation of the library to popular intelligence, the library movement, bibliophilism as an accomplishment, etc.

Indirectly, the instructor, by means of lectures, illustrated as far as possible, covered the field of the general subject, the evolution of books.

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## THE LAWRENCEVILLE BRANCH OF THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH.

As is well known, Mr. Andrew Carnegie gave $1,100,000 to the city of Pittsburgh for a free public library, with branches. The main building (including an art gallery, a museum, and a music hall) was erected at a cost of about $800,000, and opened to the public in November, 1895. The remaining $300,000 was to be used to purchase ground and erect buildings for branch libraries. Since the city is cut up into separate districts by high hills and the Monongahela River, the board of trustees decided that seven branches would be required to satisfy the needs of the people. Sites have been chosen and the ground secured for six of these; and the plans for one, the Lawrenceville branch, have been prepared and approved, and the building is now in process of erection.

In the preparation of these plans, which are here reproduced, the problem was not only to provide for a stack-room with a capacity of 20,000 volumes, a delivery-desk, a general reading-room, and a children's room on one floor, and on a lot 90 feet front by 80 feet deep; it was further required that every part of this floor should be visible from the delivery-desk, in case it should be decided to give the public free access to the shelves. It should be stated, also, that not the whole of this 90 by 80 feet was available for building, because the lot was situated on the side of a hill with the high ground in the rear. So it was necessary to sacrifice some floor space in order to secure sufficient light.

The plans will show how the requirements have been met. The general reading-room and the children's room are on either side of the lobby reached by the main entrance. The circular delivery-desk is in the midst of things. Back of it is a semicircular stack-room, with the centre of the semicircle coinciding with the centre of the delivery-desk. The 10 book-stacks are radii of this semicircle; and the partitions separating the general reading-room and children's room from the delivery-room (or lobby) and the stack-room are glass. From the delivery-desk, therefore, the assistants in charge will command a view of the entire floor. This is the distinctive feature of these plans. Heretofore, where the public has had free access to the shelves, it has been necessary either to dispense with this complete supervision and arrange the stacks in the ordinary way, or secure such supervision by shelving only the walls of the room, thus sacrificing shelf capacity. In the Lawrenceville branch plans every person on the first floor can be seen from the central desk without any special effort on the part of the assistants.

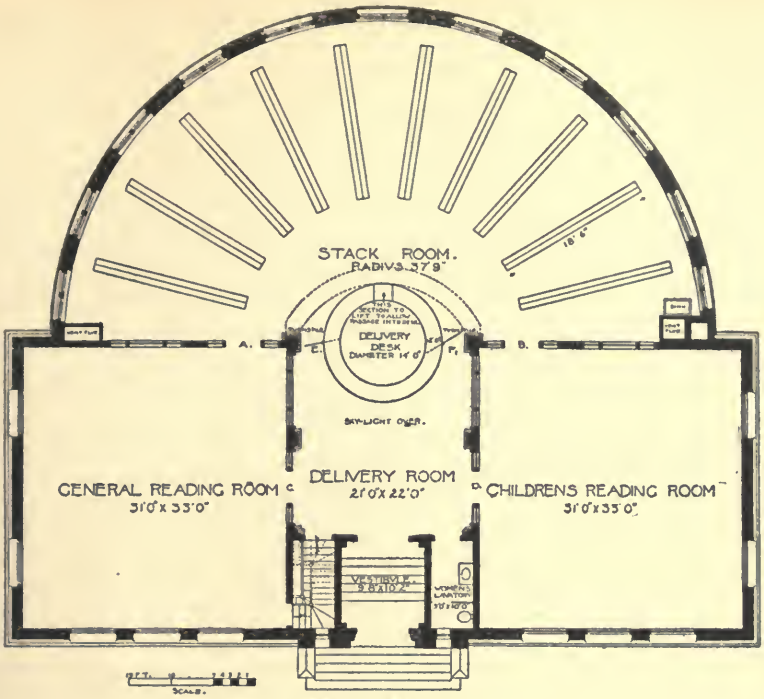
If the branch is operated on the free access plan, the doors C and D, on either side of the delivery-room (which would be merely a lobby in this case), will be closed, and entrance to the stack-room will be through the turnstile F, which works in only one direction, and thence to the reading-rooms through doors A and B. The exit from all parts is through the turnstile E, which also works in only one direction. By making it necessary for every one to pass out by the delivery-desk through this turnstile, the temptation to carry a book away without having it charged is reduced to a minimum, especially since no one can feel sure that he has escaped observation at any time during his visit. Either of the turnstiles would register automatically the total attendance. If, as is probable, the open-shelf system is adopted, what is called a children's reading-room in the plans will become a children's *department*, with all the juvenile books on shelves around the walls.

If it should be decided to abandon the open-shelf system it would only be necessary to open the doors C and D, close the doors A and B, and substitute for the circular desk and turnstiles a desk of the form indicated by the dotted lines back of the circular desk in the first-floor plans.

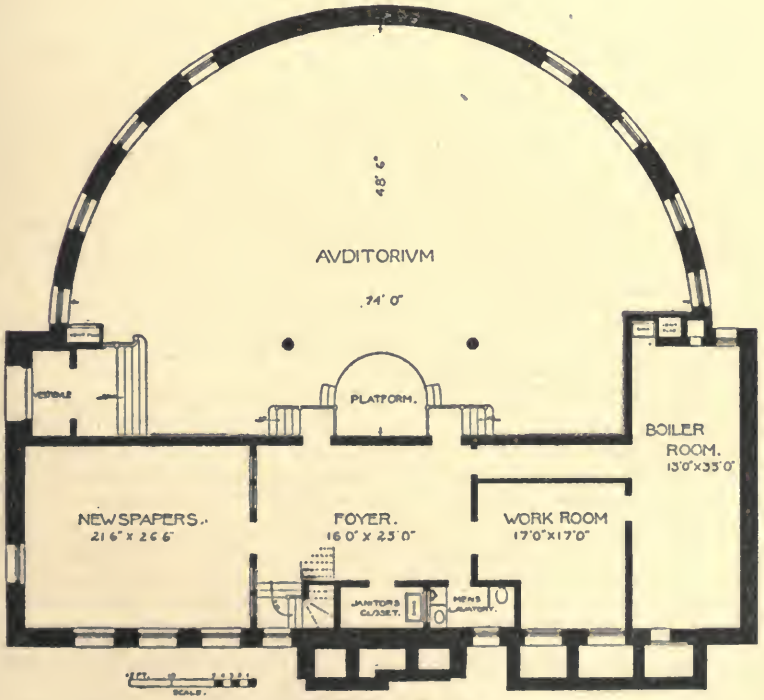
The 10 stacks in the stack-room alone will have a capacity of about 25,000 volumes, which may be doubled by superimposing 10 more stacks of the same size and connecting them with balconies. The capacity of the wall shelving in the children's room will be about 4000 volumes, with a like capacity in the general reading-room, very little of which will ever be needed. The total shelf capacity of the first floor, therefore, will be about 33,000 volumes, which may be increased to 58,000 by adding another story to the stacks.

The basement will contain a newspaper-room, if one should be needed, a work-room for unpacking, repairing, etc., a boiler-room, and an auditorium for university extension and other popular educational lectures.

Since the Lawrenceville branch is merely the first of seven branches which will complete the Pittsburgh system, and since the plans for some of the others are now being prepared, the trustees would be glad to have the benefit of criticisms and suggestions from librarians and others with reference to the plans printed and described herewith. Such criticisms and suggestions will be gratefully acknowledged, if addressed to E. H. Anderson, Librarian, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.




FIRST FLOOR PLAN.




BASEMENT PLAN

LAWRENCEVILLE BRANCH. CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBVRGH.

ALDEN AND HARLOW_ ARCHITECTS.

## AN EXTRAORDINARY TITLE.

In my communication to the Library Association of Washington on "Bad features of good books,"* I referred to the inconvenience resulting from frequent change in the title of a continuous periodical, an inconvenience felt alike by the bibliographer, the librarian, and the reader. I have lately met with a remarkable instance of this title-changing, and as the periodical is rarely found in its complete state, I here set down the title.

Palladium (The), or Appendix to the Ladies' Diary. By the author of the Ladies' Diary. [Robert Heath]. 1 no. 12mo. 1749. London, 1748.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Palladium. 5 nos. 12mo. London, 1750–'54.

*United with* The Ladies' Chronologer *and continued under the title:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Palladium and Chronologer. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1755.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Palladium and Diary. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1756.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Diary and Palladium. 1 no. 12mo. London 1757.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Palladium. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1758.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Military Palladium. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1759.

*Continued as:*

Gentleman (The) and Lady's Palladium. 3 nos. 12mo. London, 1760–'62.

*Continued as:*

Palladium (The) Extraordinary. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1763.

*Continued as:*

Palladium (The) Enlarged. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1764.

*Accompanied by a* Supplement *entitled:*

Palladium (The) Supplement. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1764.

*Continued as:*

Palladium (The) of Fame, or Annual Miscellany. 1 no. 12mo. London, 1765.

*Continued as:*

Fame's Palladium, or Annual Miscellany, being a Supplement to the Ladies' Diary. 2 nos. 12mo. London, 1766–'67.

*Continued as:*

British (The) Palladium, or Annual Miscellany. 2 nos. 12mo. London, 1768–'69.

*Continued as:*

British (The) Palladium, or Annual Miscellany of Literature and Art. 10 nos. 12mo. London, 1770–'79.

Each of these 32 numbers bears long subtitles, setting forth their contents. The journal is not mentioned by Watts, Allibone, and others; only two numbers are found in the Library of Congress, and a small portion in the British Museum. The set cataloged is in the private library of Artemas Martin, LL.D., of Washington, D. C.

This periodical, which is devoted to mathematics, and miscellaneous literature of an entertaining character, was founded by the English mathematician, Robert Heath, under peculiar circumstances. Heath, who was a retired captain in the British army, had been a frequent contributor to the *Ladies' Diary* from 1737. This latter journal was established in 1704 and was published by the Stationers' Company as proprietors. On the death of Henry Beighton, the editor of the *Ladies' Diary*, Captain Heath was appointed by the company as editor jointly with Beighton's widow. This was in 1744. While a salaried editor of the *Ladies' Diary* Heath started the *Palladium*, a journal with similar aims and methods; he not only conducted this rival on his own account but he printed in it the best articles intended for the *Ladies' Diary*. This dishonest procedure, together with a violent temper which made him enemies, led to his dismissal by the proprietors of the *Ladies' Diary*, but he continued the *Palladium* until his death in 1779. The *Ladies' Diary*, and its successor *The Lady's and Gentleman's Diary*, were published continuously until 1871.

After his dismissal Heath filled the pages of his *Palladium* with intemperate abuse of the editor, Simpson, who succeeded him, of the proprietors of the journal, and of the *Diary* itself. Heath was full of vain conceits and proposed to found a "Palladium Society," its members to wear a "Palladium button" to be obtained from him. De Morgan says he "made a noise in his day and in so doing established a claim to be considered a worthless vagabond." Other writers say that Heath as editor of mathematical periodicals did much to popularize the science in England.

H. Carrington Bolton.

* L. J., June, 1896, p. 265.

## American Library Association.

*President:* Justin Winsor, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.
*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

## State Library Commissions.

Connecticut F. P. L. Committee: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

Massachusetts State L. Commission: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

The Vermont Library Commission has been represented at five of the Teachers' Institutes held in different places in the state through the summer, and at each school some member has given a talk explaining the library laws of the state and setting forth the advantages of a close connection between the library and the school. Miss Titcomb says: "We hope to have sowed some seed which will bear fruit in the future."

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

*GEORGIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

*Treasurer:* Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

The first regular meeting of the club will be held in Macon, Oct. 28–30.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street, Chicago, Ill.

*IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Lana D. Cope, State Library, Des Moines.

The eighth annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association will be held at Des Moines, Oct. 12–13, when the following program will be considered:

*Tuesday, Oct. 12:*

*Morning session.*

Enrollment of members.
Reports of officers and committees.
President's address.

*Afternoon session.*

Organization of small town libraries, by Miss Virginia Dodge, librarian Cedar Rapids Public Library; assisted by Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

*Evening session.*

The danger line in fiction, by Johnson Brigham, editor *Midland Monthly*.

*Wednesday, Oct. 13:*

*Morning session.*

Relation of school to library, by Hon. Henry Sabin, Superintendent of Public Instruction.
Question box.

*Afternoon session.*

How to stimulate interest in the library, by Judge H. E. Deemer, of the Iowa Supreme Court.
Election of officers.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* W: H. Tillinghast, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

The Massachusetts Library Club held a well-attended meeting at Norton on Sept. 9, 60 members coming from Boston and an equal number from the south and the immediate neighborhood.

When the meeting was called to order in the Trinitarian church, Mr. W. E. Payson, of the board of trustees of the Public Library, welcomed the club and briefly described the origin and work of the library, which is the property of a corporation, and is managed by a board of 12 trustees, to whom three of the selectmen of the town are added, a liberal appropriation being made by the town.

The president, Mr. Putnam, in opening the meeting, referred to the loss which the library

profession and the association had sustained in the death of Dr. William Rice, librarian of the City Library Association of Springfield, on August 17, and remarks appreciative of the character and services of Dr. Rice were made by S: S. Green and J. L. Whitney, and a resolution of regret was adopted.

The morning session was devoted to a consideration of "Library fines," the discussion being opened by Miss Nina E. Browne, who spoke of the need of impressing on the public the necessity of paying just fines, but laid special stress on the danger of depriving readers, and particularly children, of the benefits of a library by too great accumulation of fines and a too rigid enforcement of the penalty of loss of privilege for non-payment of fines. She mentioned several instances in which serious injury had been inflicted in this way for inability to pay a fine not originally incurred by any serious fault. It is desirable that the fact that over-detention results in a fine should be carefully impressed on readers, and with especial care upon children, when they receive their cards, and the date when the book is due should be kept before the reader by some such device as the book-mark used by Mr. Berry, which is stamped with the date of issue and date when due. The over-due notice used by the public library of Windsor, Vt., was especially commended. A final appeal is made by this library to the endorser, who is asked to secure the return of the book and to collect the fine. This is an effective method. It is an excellent plan, when, as often happens, a child brings in a book without knowledge that it is overdue, and has no money to discharge it, to note the fine on the card, with instructions to bring the money next time.

A lively discussion followed the reading of the paper, which served perhaps more to bring out variations of practice and differences of local conditions than to settle any underlying principles of the fine problem. It appeared that in most cases a compromise or abatement of fine was not infrequently allowed, while the penalty of suspension of borrowing privilege was not rigidly enforced. Mr. Houghton said that in Lynn the fine was seldom allowed to reach more than 50 cents. Notice was sent promptly; if the book was not returned a messenger was promptly sent, and if he failed to secure the book, the case was at once given to the police. In Lynn people pay fines well, and, contrary to the experience of many other libraries, fines were collected as readily from the rich as from the poor.

It was suggested that in the case of children a fine might be commuted in time, the card being withdrawn for a length of time proportioned to the fine due, and it appeared that Mr. Hill at Newark had used this device.

In some places it seems that readers deliberately detain books beyond the time and pay the fine, thus assimilating the public library to a circulating library. Cases were also mentioned where readers refused to return books before going away for the summer, preferring to pay the fine upon coming back. Instances such as these elicited an expression of surprise from a non-librarian that librarians should not consider the fine a method of protecting the rights of rule-obeying readers, who justly expected to find in the library all books not properly out.

Mr. Jones advocated perfect uniformity of treatment, and would make no exception in collecting fines, except in case of contagious disease. He did not approve of the custom of printing on the over-due notice, "If a mistake has been made, please report at once." If a book due on Saturday was returned on Monday he charged a fine for Sunday, and so in case of a holiday, but made no charge when a book due on a holiday was returned next day. In Salem fines are added to the building-fund. In most cases they are spent in incidentals, or turned into the city treasury; it did not appear that the money was often spent in books, a disposition which might commend itself to the public.

After a pleasant luuch, supplied by the hospitable ladies of the town, a visit was paid to the library building, a gift from Mrs. E. B. Wheaton, and the afternoon session did not open until nearly three o'clock.

Mr. Hayes, of Somerville, read a paper upon the question, "Shall the state require towns and cities maintaining public libraries to appropriate money for support of the same in proportion to their wealth?" in which he urged that the state had a profound interest in the development of good citizens, and that the public school and the public library are indispensable educational agencies in that development. If the state needs a cultivated citizenship, and the use of a free public library is required for its development, the state should furnish the means of attaining what it requires by compelling every town to contribute to that end in proportion to its means.

Mr. Jones said that he was a believer in local self-government, and objected strongly to the state stepping in. He feared that it might embarrass libraries by fixing a lower limit than the town would otherwise give. In England the penny in the pound rate was the cause of much dissatisfaction among libraries. It is better for the library to justify itself, and make itself so useful as to force the people to contribute more and more to its support.

Mr. Whittier explained that the New Hampshire law did not affect cities or large towns, as the amount required was small, but that it did affect 213 small towns, compelling them to maintain a library. It has been in operation two years, and there is no serious opposition on the ground of interference with local self-government. It still depends on local interest to give adequate support. Mr. Green thought that the spirit of the state here was in favor of letting towns manage their own affairs, and that public interest in libraries was sufficient to provide for their support. Small appropriations in small towns are often accounted for by the large amount of volunteer and unpaid work done for the library by townspeople, especially by women. In Massachusetts interest in education and in the public library is active, and

needs no stimulation from the state. It would be very unwise to endeavor to have the state dictate to the towns in the matter of library support.

Mr. Jones then gave a brief characterization of the work of the International Conference, and described his visits to the local London libraries of Clerkenwell, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and Chelsea.

Mr. Whitney read a most enjoyable paper on the social experiences of the tourists, which was unfortunately cut short by the inexorable approach of train time.

The next meeting is the annual meeting, to be held at Medford, October 26. Reports will be submitted on the new books of the preceding six months. WM. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

The seventh annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association was held at Muskegon, Sept. 8–9, in the beautiful library given to the city by C. H. Hackley. Arrangements for the comfort and pleasure of the members were complete in all details, and at both sessions musical selections were artistically rendered by a trio of women's voices.

The first session was opened at 3 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 8. After music and prayer, an address of welcome was made by F. A. Nims, chairman of the library committee. Mr. Utley, president of the association, responded, speaking of the pleasure of meeting in a building so beautiful and so well suited to the purpose for which it was erected, and paying a fitting tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hackley, both of whom were in attendance at the meeting.

F. A. Nims, of the library committee of the Hackley Library, then read a paper on "The relation of public libraries to public instruction," in which the history of legislation in Michigan on the subject of public libraries was reviewed. The object of the paper was to show that although there was an honest and intelligent purpose to establish a free public library in every township and school district of the state, yet not only had the constitutional provision for the maintenance of such libraries been inadequate but legislation toward the same end had proved unsatisfactory. The appointment was recommended of a special committee of the association, to take the subject into consideration, to investigate and ascertain the defects of the present system, and to suggest such changes in legislation as might place the free public libraries in the townships on as secure a footing as the public schools.

An interesting discussion of state library commissions followed, and in view of the fact that the state legislature will not meet until 1899, definite action was deferred until the next annual meeting of the association.

Jason E. Hammond, state superintendent of public instruction, followed with an address on "School district libraries." He said that the Department of Public Instruction was in thorough sympathy with every effort to enlarge the library facilities of the people of the state, and especially of the youth in the public schools. He thought that the most practical method was to operate in the school district, and to induce, if possible, the school authorities of every district to maintain a library, and he condemned as a grave mistake the amendment to the constitution which permitted library moneys derived from fines for offences against the penal statutes to be used for general school purposes. These should be scrupulously devoted to the purchase of books for the library; for though the amount is very small in some districts, it is better than nothing, and if the school boards are compelled to use it for library purposes there is an incentive to add something, and so devote a respectable sum to book purchases. He promised to make a strong effort, when the revision of the constitution comes up in 1899, to have the clause with reference to library moneys restored as it originally stood.

In the evening a reception was given in honor of the librarians by Mr. and Mrs. Hackley at their beautiful home, which afforded the visitors a pleasant opportunity to meet the people of the city.

At the morning session, September 9, a most interesting paper was read by David Mackenzie, superintendent of schools in Muskegon. In treating the subject, "The school and the public library," Mr. Mackenzie expressed views that might in library circles be considered somewhat heterodox. He courteously and logically defended his position that the libraries are going outside their proper sphere in providing supplementary reading for the schools, and urged that it is with the teachers, rather than with the pupils, that libraries should find their field for work in connection with schools. He commended highly the reading lists on special topics, issued by librarians.

Mr. Utley then read an entertaining paper on English libraries, in which he described some of the chief libraries visited during his trip abroad with the International Conference delegation, and outlined the chief characteristics of the libraries of Great Britain as compared with those of the United States.

At the close of the meeting, carriages were in waiting, and a pleasant drive was taken about the city. The fine new manual training school, a gift to the city from Mr. Hackley, was visited and admired.

In the afternoon a short business session was held, at which officers were elected for one year, and it was decided to hold the next annual meeting in Bay City. A vote of thanks was passed expressing the appreciation of the association for the hospitality extended to them. The officers elected are as follows: President, Henry M. Utley, Detroit Public Library; Vice-presidents, Miss I. C. Roberts, Kalamazoo, Miss G. M. Walton, Ypsilanti; Secretary, Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Bay City Public Library; Treasurer, Miss Lucy Ball, Grand Rapids Public Library.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.
*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.
*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.
*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* J: B. Thompson, Trenton, N. J.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Emma L. Adams, Public Library, Plainfield.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.
*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.
*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.
*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.
*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

The meetings of this club will be resumed on the second Monday in October (October 11). It is purposed this year to strengthen the interest of the meetings by holding them in various places in which the interests of the library can be widened. The executive committee have decided to hold the first meeting at West Chester, and propose to make the discussion on "The development of small local libraries" the principal topic. Meetings will be held monthly from October to May, both inclusive.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W: M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.
*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.
*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.
*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.
*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.
*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.
*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.
*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.
*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.
*Secretary:* T: W. Idle, Columbia University Library.
*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.*

THE Amherst Summer School of Library Economy completed its seventh annual session on August 13. The course was taken by 35 students, representing eight states and the District of Columbia, the majority of whom were already engaged in library work. It was, as usual, under the direction of W: I. Fletcher, librarian of the College Library, and the five weeks' session represented a large amount of steady work accomplished. The class was conducted as one of beginners, and the instruction covered the field of library economy in its main branches, including cataloging, classification, reference work, etc. The afternoon sessions were devoted to practice work by the pupils.

*NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE school closed in June with even less formality than usual. Hereafter even the simplest closing exercises will be omitted and the diplomas and degrees will be conferred whenever the students have completed the required work.

Of the senior class of 1896–97 the following have accepted positions:

Etheldred Abbot, cataloger New York Public Library.

Elizabeth Parkhill Andrews, classifier and cataloger private library of the Hon. Whitelaw Reid, New York City.

Jennie Dorcas Fellows, cataloger Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass.

Isabel Ely Lord, substitute librarian Bryn Mawr College Library.

Anna Louise Morse, assistant New York State Library, Public Libraries Division.

Alice Newman, cataloger Public Library, North Adams, Mass.

Bessie Sargeant Smith, librarian Harlem Library, New York City.

Mary Sayers Terwilliger, cataloger Public Library, Utica, N. Y.

Elizabeth Gertrude Thorne, cataloger Public Library, Utica, N. Y.

The fall term will open Oct. 6.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

*WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.*

THE third annual session of the Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science was held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, from July 5 to August 13, 1897. This school was established in 1895, through the generosity of the Hon. J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis., and is at present sustained by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission.

Owing to the absence of Miss Sharp in Europe, the course was under the direction of Miss Cornelia Marvin, reference librarian and instructor in bibliography at the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, who was assisted by Miss Eliza J. Skinner, of Princeton, Ill., a recent student at the Armour Institute.

Sixteen students enrolled for the six weeks' course of the present year. Of these Wisconsin was represented by 12, Indiana by three, and Michigan by one. Eight had had some previous library experience, four were teachers, one was a member of a library board, and two took the work preparatory to entering library schools. Some of the students were preparing for special positions, and others worked for improved methods in their own libraries. Two of the students were sent by their boards and all expenses paid, others reported some financial aid or substitute provided, and in other cases the student not only paid her own tuition and expenses but furnished a supply in her home library. The students were all earnest and enthusiastic workers, anxious to make the best use of every opportunity; and the trustees who made it possible for librarians to attend will have every reason to feel well repaid by the increased interest in library work that must come with better knowledge of processes and higher aims.

The instruction followed closely the lines laid down by Miss Sharp in 1895–96. Three hours of the morning were devoted to class instruction, the afternoon being left free for independent work. The first two weeks and the second and third hours of the third week were devoted to general subjects of library economy and the simpler technical work, such as book selection and buying, accession and shelf departments; loan systems, library publications and supplies, travelling and home libraries, reports, statistics, etc. The third hour for two weeks was given to the study of reference books and aids, each student preparing a reading list and a select bibliography of books on library economy useful to the library student. One hour a day for four weeks was given to cataloging instruction, and the same time for two weeks to classification, the Dewey and Cutter systems being taught. During the last week finding lists, public documents, library service, and reorganizing problems were discussed. Each branch was illustrated by practical work, and each student carried away sample catalog, accession sheets, rules for dictionary catalog, etc., for future reference. The "library hand" was used in all the work.

Library appliances were seen in the full exhibit made by the Library Bureau and material from the Illinois State Library School. Two visits were made to the bindery and printing office. The State Historical Society, the university, and the public libraries furnished ample material for study; and the Wisconsin State Library Commission office, with its sample travelling library and exhibit of books and periodicals, blanks used in libraries, etc., was a centre of interest.

Interesting talks were given to the school by Miss Myrtilla Avery and W. R. Eastman, of the New York State Library, and Miss L. E. Stearns and F. A. Hutchins, of the Library Commission.

The social side of the session was most delightful, the beautiful situation of Madison making possible delightful drives in the surrounding country and all forms of boating and sailing on the four large lakes. An evening was spent at the home of Mrs. W. F. Allen, who entertained her guests with stories of Bronson Alcott and other Concord folk.

A strong feeling of fellowship developed among the students, one of the best features of the school being the interchange of ideas, comparison of methods, and the practical hints given by those who had developed their own methods under difficulties. The students all plan to carry on future study by means of the references and suggestions given as each topic was taken up, and by visits to libraries other than their own. As a former student has said, "The summer school has proved an active and living factor in the promotion of library interests, and its permanence is especially essential to the growth and development of the smaller libraries, whose limited facilities preclude the possibility of furnishing to librarians, in any other way, the training that is vital to their successful operation."

## Library Economy and History.

### LOCAL.

*Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L.* The *Baltimore American* of Aug. 26, under the caption "These authors tabooed," published a sensational article on the withdrawal from circulation, in the Enoch Pratt Free Library, of the works of Mrs. Southworth and others. This article has attracted considerable attention throughout the country, because of the reasons given for the withdrawal, for which the reporter drew on his imagination. Referring to this in an interview on his European trip in the *Sun*, on Sept. 3, Dr. Steiner said:

"During my absence, I now learn, there was some unpleasant comment made on my course in removing from the shelves of the Pratt Library certain books, which published rumor stated were not deemed fit by me for circulation. Such an assertion was erroneous and without foundation. The works of a few writers of light novels have been excluded from the shelves at my order, for the simple reason that the material of the books would not stand the wear and strain of circulation. In one particular case one publisher bought the plates of an authoress's works from the original publisher. They were badly worn and the type was extremely difficult to read. Besides, the paper used was of the cheapest wood-pulp. As we have now plenty of light reading in the library, I decided to exclude these books as fast as they became unfit for circulation, and did not see the necessity for renewal.

"As in all libraries, we at various intervals expel books that we deem of too morbid a character for circulation by a library of this kind. The aim in a public library is, of course, to obtain literature that is elevating, not literature that promotes an evil influence."

*Boone (Ia.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 518; total 436; lost 5. Issued, home use 11,973 (fict. 8831); visitors to reading-room, 18,679. Receipts $1511.66; expenses $1154.39.

*Boston P. L.* The most valuable accession to the library obtained by Mr. Putnam during his trip abroad is a full bound set of the London *Times*, from 1809 to the present; the purchase was made from the Todd newspaper fund. Several thousand unmounted photographs, most of which were purchased in Italy, will also be added to the library's collection as a result of this trip.

Much newspaper comment has recently been aroused by the statement made in a Boston dispatch to the N. Y. *Evening Post* that users of the Boston Public Library were not allowed free access to the writings of the more violent French and German anarchists and socialists, as instanced by *La Lanterne* and the writings of Louise Michel. The subject was later referred to Mr. Putnam, who in an interview said that the published statements were erroneous, and that no books were restricted from circulation because of political theories, but only for moral reasons.

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* (16th rpt.) Added 2406; total 29,835. Issued, home use 145,694 (fict. and juv. 64 %); ref. use 15,087; art studies issued 530. Sunday attendance 10,266. New registration 1455; total re-registration 10,060. Receipts $26,135.38; expenses $13,508.60 (balance of $12,626.78 is to meet expenses to April 1, 1898.)

The year's circulation is the highest ever reached by the library; "it is not, however, the increased quantity of reading done which affords the board special pleasure, but the great improvement in its quality." A review is given of the changes wrought in this direction during the 16 years of the library's existence, and of the various factors that have influenced this change, one of the most potent of which is the series of art exhibitions held each year. "An author-catalog of fiction, and a supplement to the finding list of solid books were issued before Christmas, and a complete author list of juvenile works is nearly ready. The card catalog is in process of thorough revision."

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* The formal opening of the library as a free public institution occurred on the evening of Sept. 1, when a largely attended reception was held at the library building. All departments were thrown open for inspection, and the library staff acted as guides, showing the visitors through the rooms and explaining the changes in arrangement. The brief exercises were opened with an address by N. W. Norton, president of the library board, who gave a summary of the history of the movement which culminated in the reorganization of the library, and spoke of the part it should henceforth play in the civic and educational development of Buffalo. The speaker of the evening was Dr. J. S. Billings, director of the New York Public Library, whose address on the "Use and opportunities of a free public library" was eloquent, inspiring, and full of practical suggestion.

On the following morning the regular routine of the library began, and nearly 1000 books were issued before night. Over 8000 names had been registered before the opening, and there was no slackening in the applications. The library starts work under promising auspices, and its newly decorated and altered quarters are thoroughly attractive and satisfactory.

*Cedar Rapids, Ia. Masonic L.* The library, which holds a foremost place in extent and administration among Masonic libraries, is the subject of an interesting paper in the *Freemason's Repository* for June, 1897, p. 450. "It is believed that this library contains the largest collection of valuable Masonic curios, proceedings, addresses, sermons, and everything bearing the mark of the craft upon it to be found in any part of the globe." Its development is largely the result of the devotion of the grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, T. S. Parvin, who has been an indefatigable worker in its behalf. The article is illustrated with views of the library, and with a portrait of Mr. Parvin.

*Chicago. Newberry L.* The library recently inaugurated a novel plan for collecting genealogical records of Chicago citizens. A letter was sent to the principal of every grammar and high school in the city, asking that each pupil of sufficient age be requested to fill in on printed blanks an account of his or her family. These blanks will be filed in the library and properly recorded for easy consultation, so that they may be referred to at any time.

The blank is divided into three sections, the first being as follows: "In order to make the genealogical department of this library as complete as possible in the family history of the city of Chicago and of the state of Illinois, it is particularly desired that you answer the following questions at your earliest convenience. If you cannot answer all the questions please answer as many as possible: Your name.... Born, when.... Born, where.... Your occupation.... Address.... Your father's name in full.... Born, when.... Where.... Married, when.... Where.... By whom.... Your mother's name in full.... Born, when.... Where.... Name of mother's father.... Maiden name of mother's mother.... Occupation of your father.... Address.... Father died, when.... Where.... Age.... Mother died, when.... Where.... Age.... Mention briefly all offices, degrees of colleges, honors, military service or other noteworthy occurrences.

"Give names of children, when born, and to whom married."

The two remaining sections provide for a detailed statement of the families of the grandfather and great-grandfather similar to that concerning the father's household.

*Chicago. Univ. of Chicago Settlement.* Two years ago a free lending library was opened with 200 books—mostly standard works. Additions have been made from time to time until the library at present numbers about 1200 books, not enough to satisfy the 1050 whose names are on the register. Besides this central library the Settlement has placed six home libraries in the neighborhood. The favorite author is Dickens but the most popular book is the "Scottish chiefs"; "Pilgrim's progress" is often called for. The women often ask for "short stories," as many are so busy that they have no time for long novels. Biography, history, and poetry are asked for by public school teachers and children in the higher grades. Foreigners who are still wrestling with the English language ask for books in simple easy words. Works in Polish, Bohemian, and German would be eagerly taken if we had them. The present library has afforded the residents of the Settlement an opportunity to make many acquaintances in the neighborhood. The residents have especially appreciated the use they have been able to make of the library in guiding the children into profitable reading. A circulating collection of pictures is ready for loaning in the fall.— *Univ. of Chic. Record, Aug.* 13, 1897.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* At a meeting of the library board on Aug. 2, a resolution was adopted providing for the issue of $250,000 worth of bonds, in accordance with the provisions of the act passed by the legislature in April, 1896, to be devoted to the purchase of a site and the erection and equipment of a new library building. The act requires that the bonds shall be of the denomination of $1000 each, shall run for 20 years, and shall bear interest at five per cent. No announcement of the site of the proposed building has yet been made.

At the same meeting it was resolved to remove the age limit which has heretofore restricted the use of the library to persons over 12 years of age. It was also decided to provide badges for the members of the Library League.

*Colorado State Hist. Soc., Denver.* The society has decided to establish an historical and reference library in the capitol building, where it hopes to obtain the use of seven unoccupied rooms in the basement, which will give accommodation for 150,000 v. The society has a miscellaneous collection of thousands of documents and similar material, and it is proposed to make this the nucleus of a well-rounded and valuable library on Colorado history. Two years ago when the state offices were removed to the new capitol several tons of documents were burned to get them out of the way. This indicates that some systematic care of the state's literature is desirable.

*Decatur (Ill.) F. P. L.* The library suffered a serious loss on Aug. 20, in the death of Dr. William A. Barnes, president of the library board. Dr. Barnes had held that position for over 21 years, and his personal interest in and devotion to the development of the library were always to be relied on. He knew its history and needs to the smallest detail, and acted for its welfare with intimate intelligence and thoroughness.

*Dunkirk, N. Y. Darwin R. Barker F. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 1, '97.) Added 514; total 4736. Issued, home use 27,282 (fict. 76%). Cardholders 1306. Receipts $1180.87; expenses $759.78.

This report covers the first year's work of the library as a free public library. "The fact of a circulation of 27,282 volumes with 1306 cardholders in 1896–97, as against 4279 volumes with 240 subscribers, the highest figures we attained under the subscription system, affords a contrast which needs no other argument to prove the popular appreciation of the change." Unrestricted access is given to all shelves. The appropriation for the library is but $350 a year, to which was added this year a balance of $500, saved from the preliminary equipment fund. The women managers say, "We imagine few villages have had a circulation of 27,282 volumes from an appropriation of $350 a year," and they ask that the sum be increased $500.

*Glen Haven (N. Y.) P. L.* The evolution of the Glen Haven library was described by Miss Phelps, its creator, in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for August, 1896 (p. 362–364). This summer Miss Phelps has continued her successful efforts to

raise money and obtain books for the cause from the summer visitors to the region, and as a result the library now contains over 500 v., and a fair sum has been put aside as a building fund. Miss Phelps recently obtained the refusal of a small tract of land opposite the school-house in which the library is now housed, and on this she hopes before long to build a permanent home for the library.

*Illinois State Hist. L.* (4th biennial rpt., Dec. 17, '94–Dec. 17, '96.) Added 1712; total 6256. Lack of space and lack of funds are "the two leading defects in the present condition and affairs of the library." The annual appropriation, originally $2500, is now but $1000, and the trustees strongly urge that it be restored to its first figure.

*Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L.* (23d rpt., 1896–97.) Added 5981; total 68,933. Issued 321,389; of which 22,948 were issued during the past six months through the 12 delivery stations and from the five branch libraries.

*Janesville (Wis.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 1212; total 14,669. Issued, home use 39,471, an increase of 10,210 over the circulation of the previous year. Receipts $3848.34; expenses $3360.72.

*Joliet (Ill.) P. L.* Added 1359; total 13,648. Issued, home use 65,177; lib. use 1638. New registration 786.

*Keokuk (Ia.) P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 751; total 10,971. Issued, home use 61,711 (fict. 55,357). New cards issued 639; total cardholders 3792. Receipts $2337.85; expenses $2276.38.

*Leadville (Colo.) P. L. A.* The association was incorporated on Aug. 20, its objects being "to cultivate a taste for good literature among the citizens of Leadville, and to have and maintain a public library building in that city."

*Ledyard, Ct. Bill L. A.* At the 30th annual meeting of the association, held Aug. 25, a resolution was passed abolishing the annual membership fee heretofore charged, and making the library entirely free to the public.

*Louisville. Polytechnic Soc. of Ky. L.* (Rpt., p. 15–17 of Proceedings, 1897.) Added 847; total 50,343. Issued, home use 24,765; lib. use 53,455; total 78,220, of which 51,911 were fiction. Visitors 91,283; membership 443.

The library committee regret that there has not been a greater growth in the use of the library and a larger increase in membership.

*Madison (Wis.) F. L.* The librarian's statistics for the year ending July 1 show a total of 14,681 v. in the library, and a home circulation of 70,975.

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* On Aug. 3 the library board authorized the adoption of the two-book system. At the same time the use of the linotype for library printing was considered, and it was decided to adopt this method for the future.

*New Bedford (Mass.) P. L.* (45th rpt.) Added 3203; total not given. Issued, home use 116,625 (fict. and juv. 61 %). New cards issued 1134. Receipts $15,689.20; expenses $16,524.70.

There has been a marked increase in the use of the library during the year, and several changes in methods of administration have been made. The cataloging and reclassification have been practically completed, and the dictionary card catalog has been widely appreciated. The Browne charging system has been adopted. An open shelf for new books has proved very popular, and an information-desk has been established. More room is badly needed, especially for separating and enlarging the reference and reading rooms and for obtaining additional shelving.

*Newark, N. J. Seton Hall College L.* A handsome new building is to be erected for the college library, plans for which have already been accepted. It will cost about $35,000, and will be connected with the main college buildings.

*Oakland (Cal.) F. L.* Added 2085; total 25,197. Issued, home use 149,270; ref. use 36,000; visitors to ref. room 25,219. Receipts $18,013.12; expenses $17,856.01.

It has been decided to request an addition of $2000 to the estimate for the new year, to be devoted to the establishment and support of two branch reading-rooms.

*Passaic (N. J.) P. L.* At the August meeting of the board of trustees it was decided to adopt the two-book system.

*Philadelphia. Franklin Institute L.* Alterations are in process at the institute which will give the library a new and fireproof stack-room, and will permit the rearrangement of the books in a much more adequate and convenient manner. The stack will be installed in the main building, and the second story of the back building, now largely occupied by shelving, will be used exclusively as a reading-room and for the display of the mineral collections. The contract for the stack has been awarded to the Fenton Metallic Manufacturing Co.; it is to be two stories high, of steel and glass, with a capacity for 64,000 v. The building alterations will be completed by Oct. 1 and the stack will be in place by Dec. 1. The books will be moved into the new quarters without any change in the present classification, but it is hoped that the entire collection may be rearranged and classified according to the Decimal classification.

*Philadelphia F. L.* During the first six months of the present year the library has issued 836,898 v., as against 670,842 for the same period in 1896. If the record for the second six months of the year should not even exceed those figures, the circulation for 1897 would amount to 1,500,000 v.

*Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Adriance P. L.* The corner-stone of the Adriance memorial library building was laid on Aug. 10 with Masonic ceremonies. The building, which will cost

$75,000, is the gift of the family of the late John P. Adriance, long a resident of the city; it is to be finished by Dec. 1.

*Port Jervis* (*N. Y.*) *F. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 1048; total 8256. Issued, home use 22,358.

The use of the two-card system has increased the circulation of "solid" literature.

*Reading* (*Pa.*) *L.* The library will become free on Jan. 1 next, when the mortgage of $10,500 upon the property will be cancelled. The money for the purpose was obtained by a committee of citizens who have interested themselves in the movement for a free library, and 21 subscriptions of $500 each were secured for that purpose.

*Riverside* (*Cal.*) *P. L.* (Rpt.—year ending July 1, '97.) Added 1103; total 9044. Issued, home use 54,521 (fict. 84%); no record of ref. use is kept. New registration 957; total cardholders 3766. Receipts $4061.78; expenses $2881.35.

Free access is permitted to all books except fiction. The librarian recommends the adoption of the two-book system, the establishment of a special "new book" table or shelf, and the issue of a supplement to the finding list.

*Rome, N. Y. Jervis L.* (Rpt.) Added 1033; total 11,563. Issued, home use 46,436 (fict. 73%.) New registration 811; total registration 3111.

*Rutherford* (*N. J.*) *F. L. A.* (3d rpt.) Added 347; total 1875. Issued, home use 9652 (fict. 7499). New cards issued 313; total cards issued 860. Receipts $1120.53; expenses $823.57.

During the year the library was installed in the attractive building given to the association by Mr. D. B. Ivison.

*Syracuse* (*N. Y.*) *Central L.* A children's room has been established on the third floor of the library building, in the room formerly used for the storage of public documents and newspapers.

*Trenton, Mo. Jewett Norris F. L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 574; total 4574. Issued, home use 16,675 (fict. 86.28%). Cardholders 1745.

*University of the State of N. Y.* (109th rpt., 1895, transmitted to the legislature Feb. 11, 1896. 2 v. O.) These volumes contain the reports and bulletins issued from or devoted to the Administrative department of the Regents' office during 1895. Those that concern library matters have before this been summarized in the L. J. The secretary's report, covering p. 1–99, was noted in last month's issue (August, p. 411–412); besides this there are included as appendixes the "Summary of educational legislation in 1895"; "Abstracts of the annual reports of the colleges" of the university, with statistical tables; and "Abstracts of annual reports of high schools and academies," with statistical tables.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* Thomas W. Lloyd, once an assistant in the Law Library, was on Aug. 20 arrested for stealing valuable books from that library. The books were obtained for alcove use, and carried off one or two at a time. He was arraigned on Aug. 22, when Librarian Curtis, of the Law Library, testified that his thefts amounted to probably $400. Lloyd made no defence, save entering a plea that he had stolen on account of poverty and privation. He was sentenced to a year's imprisonment. He was formerly a lawyer, and later held a position in the library, which it is said was lost through intemperate habits.

*Wilmington* (*Del.*) *Institute F. L.* (Rpt.—11 months, April 1, '96–Feb. 28, '97.) This is the 40th report of the institute, but the third of the library since it was made free. The additions for the period covered were 3025; total 28,630. Issued, home use 138,051 (main l. fict. 57.1%, juv. 31.5%; branch l. fict. 26.4%, juv. 51.6%). New registration 1684; total cards in use 10,423. Receipts $13,204.84; expenses $13,175.21.

The circulation in "the two popular departments of fiction and juveniles have together been increased a third, and yet the ratio of percentages for all classes is scarcely affected. It is undoubtedly true that our fiction circulates itself and other books too; I believe this is the uniform experience of libraries with open shelves and the two-book system."

The card catalog now includes all books in the library, and the 3400 v. of bound periodicals have been shelf-listed and cataloged. Changes have been made in the arrangement of the reference-room that have facilitated its work, and in this room shelves of books have been reserved for clubs, teachers, and schoolchildren. In October the children's books were arranged in a separate alcove, which has proved very popular. "Speaking approximately, the library has 4000 juvenile cardholders, and circulates each month twice as many juvenile books as it has, or one to each cardholder."

*Winona, Minn.* The corner-stone of the library building given to Winona by W. H. Laird, as previously described in the L. J. (July, p. 364), was laid on Aug. 26.

*Winsted, Ct.* Work has been begun on the library building to be given to Winsted by J. J. Whiting, and in which it is probable that the Beardsley Library of West Winsted may be housed and conducted as a free library.

*FOREIGN.*

*Leeds* (*Eng.*) *P.* (*F.*) *Ls.* (27th rpt.) Added, ref. l. 1658; total 52,848; issued 136,037; visitors to magazine and newspaper tables 427,320. Added, central lending l. and 23 branches 9460; total 141,831; issued, home use 850,129 (fict., poetry and drama 469,650). Cardholders 28,379. Receipts £8111 2*s.* 11*d.*; expenses £7021 15*s.* 1*d.*

*Madrid, Bibl. Nacionale.* The library of the late prime minister, Señor Canovas del Castillo, who was assassinated by an anarchist on Aug.

8, has been bequeathed to the National Library. Señor Canovas' collection comprised about 30,000 v., many of which are extremely rare; it included a copy of the second edition of "Don Quixote."

*Tokyo (Japan) L.* (Rpt., 1896.) The usual English summary of statistics accompanies the report, which is printed in Japanese. Added 3941, of which 845 were European; total 149,743, of which 31,702 are European. During the 336 days the library was open it was visited by 74,034 readers, a daily average of 220.3. There were 461,846 v. read, an increase of 37,309 over the previous year. The library is for reference only.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Kingston, N. H.* J. Howard Nichols, of Boston, has offered to give to the town of Kingston a public library to cost about $10,000; it will be a memorial to Mr. Nichols's father and mother. At a town meeting held July 23 the gift was accepted and a site was decided upon.

*Leland Stanford Jr. Univ. L.* The library has recently received a valuable collection of books and manuscripts devoted to Australian literature, from Thomas Stanford, of Australia, a brother of ex-Senator Leland Stanford. The collection comprises about 2500 v. and 3000 pamphlets.

*Lunenberg, Mass.* At a town meeting held Aug 21, it was voted to decline an offer of $10,000 for a library building, recently made to the town by Mrs. Mary S. Spaulding, of Groton. The refusal was due to the conditions attached to the gift. These were: the payment to Mrs. Spaulding by the town of six per cent. interest on the money during her lifetime, the building becoming at her death the property of the town; the devotion of the entire sum to the construction of a building, its equipment and maintenance to devolve upon the town; and the choice of one of two sites named by the donor. It was also required that the library be named the Spaulding Library.

*Menasha (Wis.) P. L.* E. D. Smith, of Menasha, has given $25,000 to the library for a new building. The library, which was started by public subscription, was opened Sept. 23, 1896; a membership fee of $1 is charged. A celebration in honor of Mr. Smith's gift was held on July 17, and was attended by 3000 persons. Fireworks, speeches, and music were the order of the evening.

*Middletown, N. J.* By the will of the late Mrs. Marietta Thrall, of Middletown, the city is left $50,000, of which $30,000 is to be devoted to the erection of a library building to be known as the Thrall Library Building.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* The library's fund for the purchase of art-books was increased on July 13 by the gift of $10,000 from Mrs. Caroline Metcalf, to be given in instalments of $2000 a year. The first instalment was paid when the gift was announced. The books bought with the money are to form the Metcalf collection.

*Univ. of California L., Berkeley.* The library has received from Mr. Collis P. Huntington the magnificent collection of Spanish manuscripts and books, pamphlets and documents relating to the history of California since its American occupation, gathered by Col. J. L. Warren and Robert Cowan, of San Francisco. It is said to be second only to the H. H. Bancroft collection.

## Librarians.

BERRY, Silas H., for several years past librarian of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Y. M. C. A. Library, has been appointed librarian of the New York Y. M. C. A. Library, succeeding the late Reuben B. Poole. Since Mr. Poole's death in 1895 the library has been without a librarian, Werner Jonghaus, formerly first assistant, serving as acting librarian. Mr. Jonghaus will continue in the position of assistant librarian. Mr. Berry will have charge of the removal of the library from the present building to the fine new fireproof quarters in the West-side branch on 52d street, which will be entered early in September.

BUCHANAN, Samuel, was on Aug. 3 appointed librarian of the East St. Louis (Ill.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Minnie Turner, acting librarian, who was made first assistant.

BURSCH, Daniel F. W., has not resigned his position of librarian of the Portland (Ore.) Library Association, as was erroneously stated in the August LIBRARY JOURNAL, but was called east some weeks since by the illness of a brother, and was granted a three-months' leave of absence by the library board. D. P. Leach, chief assistant, was made acting librarian during his absence. Mr. Bursch writes: "Circumstances will probably make it necessary for me to relinquish my chosen profession for a time, but I desire to have it understood that I am not giving it up because it is no longer my preferred work."

CALKINS, Miss Emma J., has been appointed librarian of the Racine (Wis.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Elizabeth P. Clarke, who organized the library. Miss Calkins is a graduate of Armour Institute Library School, class of 1895–96.

CLARK, Thomas H., of Montgomery, Ala., has been appointed Superintendent of the Law Library, which is virtually a department of the Congressional Library. Mr. Clark is a lawyer and newspaper man, who has been active in the sound-money Democratic movement in Alabama. He is especially interested in the literature of his state, and in an address on "Historical Alabama," delivered before the literary societies of Alabama Polytechnic Institute in 1893, he manifested a sound appreciation of the work of libraries as preservers of historical material.

GRIFFIN, Appleton P. C., was on Sept. 1 appointed one of the assistant librarians of the Congressional Library. Mr. Griffin's important services to bibliography, in his various bibliographies of American historical societies and of historical literature, are familiar to all interested in library work, and his appointment is a gratifying one. Mr. Griffin was for years connected with the Boston Public Library, where, as superintendent of the catalog department, his work on the quarterly bulletins was most valuable. In 1894 he left that library and undertook special cataloging for the Boston Athenæum, together with independent bibliographical labors for the American Historical Association. The great "Catalogue of the Washington collection," just published by the Athenæum, was compiled and annotated by Mr. Griffin, and is a monument to his bibliographical skill.

HANSON, James Christian, head cataloger of the University of Wisconsin Library, Madison, was on Sept. 1 appointed Chief of the Catalog Department of the Congressional Library. Mr. Hanson, who is a graduate of Cornell, and a fine linguist, was cataloger in the Newberry Library, Chicago, before accepting the position in the University of Wisconsin, which he has held for four years past. He has been a member of the A. L. A. since 1893.

KIMBALL, Arthur R., formerly state librarian of New Hampshire, was on Sept. 1 appointed an assistant librarian of the Congressional Library. Mr. Kimball as state librarian of New Hampshire did admirable service in arranging state documents, cataloging them adequately and making them available to the public, and since his retirement from that office in 1894 he has maintained his interest in library affairs. He is one of the active members of the New Hampshire Library Association, in which he has also served as secretary, and he has been a member of the A. L. A. since 1890.

LONGSTREET-DORTCH. Miss Ellen Dortch, assistant librarian of the Georgia State Library, and Gen. James Longstreet, the well-known Confederate veteran, were married on Sept. 8, at the home of Gov. Atkinson, in Atlanta, Ga. Miss Dortch, who has been for some years assistant librarian in the state library, was one of the chief candidates for the office of state librarian on the expiration of Captain Milledge's term of office this year, and succeeded in obtaining the passage by the last legislature of a bill making women eligible to that office.

ORR, Charles, librarian of the Case Library, Cleveland, O., has recently completed work on a "History of the Pequot war," based upon the contemporary accounts of Mason, Underhill, Vincent, and Gardiner, which he has edited and furnished with notes and an introduction. The book is announced for early issue by the Helman-Taylor Co. of Cleveland.

PIERCE-FERNALD. Miss Harriet Converse Fernald, late librarian of Maine State College, Orono, and John Alvin Pierce, of Spokane, Wash., were married on August 17, at the home of the bride's parents, Orono, Me. Miss Fernald, who is a graduate of the New York State Library School, class of 1888, has had charge of the Maine State College Library for several years past, and has been an active worker in the Maine State Library Association. Mr. Pierce, who was graduated from Columbia University in 1888 with the degree of LL.B., is Prosecuting Attorney for Spokane county, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce will make their home in Spokane.

REMMINGER, Miss Elizabeth D., a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1895–96, has been appointed librarian of the Buffalo (N. Y.) Catholic Institute, succeeding Miss Eleanor E. Davie.

RICE, William, D.D., librarian for 36 years of the City Library Association in Springfield, Mass., died in that city, after two weeks' illness, on Aug. 17, aged 76 years. An estimate of Dr. Rice's work in the Springfield Library is given elsewhere in this issue (*see* p. 437).

RICORD, Frederick W., librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society, died at his home in Newark, N. J., on Aug. 12. Mr. Ricord was born in the Island of Guadaloupe in 1819, and was a graduate of Rutgers College, studying law in Geneva after his graduation. In 1849 he was appointed librarian of the Newark Library Association, now the Free Public Library, with which he was connected for many years. He also occupied various official positions, being for 16 years a member of the board of education of Newark, and in 1869 and 1871 was elected mayor of Newark. Mr. Ricord is well known by his translations from the French; he also published an English grammar, a history of Rome, and only recently completed a translation of the comedies of Terence. His collection of Terence is said to be one of the finest in the country. He leaves a widow and four children.

SLAUSON, Allen B., was appointed on Sept. 1 Superintendent of Periodical and Newspaper Departments of the Congressional Library. Mr. Slauson is an Oregon man, and for several years past has been Washington correspondent for several Oregon papers. He is a graduate of Cornell.

SMITH, Miss Bessie S., has been appointed librarian of the Harlem Library of New York City, which was made a free public library on Sept. 2. Miss Smith is a graduate of Wellesley College, and a graduate also of the New York State Library School, class of 1896–97.

STONE, Frederick Dawson, librarian of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, died suddenly of heart failure on Aug. 12, at his home in Germantown, to which he had returned a week before from a trip to the Catskills. Dr. Stone was born in Philadelphia, April 8, 1841, and after attending private schools entered his father's firm of John Stone & Sons, dealers in wholesale millinery. In 1876 he became librarian of the Historical Society, and held that

position until his death. He was recognized as an authority on matters pertaining to the early history of Pennsylvania, and edited and was a frequent contributor to *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, published by the Historical Society. He was the author of the chapter on the early history of Pennsylvania in the "Narrative and critical history of America," by Justin Winsor, and in collaboration with John Bach McMaster edited a volume entitled "Pennsylvania and the Federal constitution, 1787-1788," which was published by the Historical Society. He also contributed the appendix to a publication relating to the constitutional centennial celebration, and supplied a sketch of the early history of the adoption of the constitution. Several years ago the University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Letters. Dr. Stone leaves a widow and one son, Witmer Stone, assistant curator at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

VAN DER LINDE, Prof. Antonius, for 21 years principal librarian of the Landesbibliothek at Wiesbaden, Germany, died in that city on Aug. 17. Prof. Van der Linde, who was well known as an historian and philologist, was born in Haarlem in 1833, and after studying theology in Leyden and Amsterdam, and philosophy and history at Göttingen, was ordained by the Dutch Reformed Church, and for some time worked in one of the parishes of Amsterdam. In 1871 he settled in Berlin, where he was appointed to an important post in the Royal Library. In 1876 he accepted the office in the Landesbibliothek at Wiesbaden, which he held until his death. He began his series of biographical and critical monographs in 1866, when he published in French, in co-operation with the Russian scholar Obelenski, a documentary work on the false Demetrius. In the next year appeared his two volumes on Caspar Hauser, and in 1870 his "De Haarlemsche Costerlegende," in which he criticised the story which made Laurens Coster, of Haarlem, the original inventor of printing with movable types, and affirmed the right of Gutenberg to the glory of the invention. This work was received with such indignation by his countrymen, who cherished the Coster legend with devotion, that he was moved to leave his native land. During his residence in Berlin and Wiesbaden Van der Linde continued his researches into the early history of printing, the results of which are collected in his "Geschichte der Erfindung der Buchdruckerkunst." He was also an expert in the history and bibliography of the game of chess, and added largely to chess literature.

WASHINGTON, Lawrence, of Alexandria, Va., was on Sept. 1 appointed assistant in charge of the Washingtonian collection of the Congressional Library. Mr. Washington, who is a descendant of the first President, was at the time of his appointment stamp deputy in the Internal Revenue office of Alexandria; he is said to have had experience in the care of manuscripts and historical collections.

WHITTLESEY, Walter R., for several years past chief operator for the Southern Railway in Alexandria, Va., was on Sept. 1 appointed superintendent of the Music Department of the Congressional Library. Mr. Whittlesey is said to be a practised musician.

## Cataloging and Classification.

ADLER, Cyrus. The international catalogue of scientific literature [Reprinted from *Science*, Aug. 6, 1897.] 40 p.

A concise and interesting summary of the plans, proceedings, and results of the bibliographical conference held in London under the auspices of the Royal Society, July, 1896. (*See* L. J., 1896, June, p. 276; Aug., p. 370; Nov., p. 499.) Dr. Adler quotes largely from the official report of the conference — which, curiously enough, has had no general circulation or attention in this country — and appends correspondence between Secretary Olney, Dr. Billings and Prof. Newcomb, the American delegates, and Prof. Langley, of the Smithsonian Institution, regarding the official participation of the United States in the work. While essentially the same as the statement on the subject made by Dr. Adler at the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A., the present article goes more fully into details than was then possible.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a bibliographical summary of works on "The Yukon gold-fields, together with works on Alaska"; it includes reports, documents, books, maps, and articles in periodicals.

CASTILLO, M. La clasificación bibliográfica decimal: exposición del sistema y traducciòn de las tablas generales. Salmanaca, 1897. 84 p. 8°.

CONCORD (*Mass.*) P. L. Fiction finding list, 1897. 152 p. O.

A well-printed author list, followed by title list.

The FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains reference lists on Matthew Arnold, Swinburne, Schumann, and the opera.

INDIANAPOLIS (*Ind.*) P. L. Supplement no. 2 to the finding list. Indianapolis, 1897. 70 p. l. O.

NEW LONDON (*Ct.*) P. L. Finding list, March 1, 1897. 2d ed., 1897. 310 p. l. sq. O.

Printed by the linotype. Lists all books in the library up to March, 1897. A D. C. subject list, followed by a 4-p. list of "Art studies," general author list (except fiction), and title and author lists of fiction.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for August, besides printing an interesting collection of Washington's copy-press letters from the collection purchased by the Lenox Library, 1895, continues

its record of periodicals contained in the New York Public and Columbia University libraries by a list of those relating to archæology, which covers 15 p.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) CITY L. for August has a short "Selected list of books on hunting, sporting, and fishing."

U. S. *Dept. of Agriculture.* Library bulletin, August, 1897. Accessions to the department library, April–June, 1897. 26 p. O.

A new *format.* The list is now printed on one side of the page only, and issued in a narrow octavo instead of the former nearly quarto size.

*FULL NAMES.*

*Supplied by Harvard College Library:*

Barbour, Joseph (Kentucky digest);

Devlin, Robert T: (A treatise on the law of deeds);

Marsh, Joseph W: (Pocket handbook of useful information, etc., relating to lead covered electric cables, etc.);

Stillman, T: Bliss (Engineering chemistry);

Vanderslice, J: Mitchell (Gettysburg; where and how the regiments fought).

## Bibliography.

ARISTOTLE. Schwab, Moïse. Bibliographie d'Aristotle; mémoire couronné par l'Institut de France. Paris, H. Welter, 1897.

Reviewed at length in the *Athenæum* for Aug. 28, p. 285–286. "This book appears no doubt under a certain disadvantage, since instead of being printed in the ordinary way it is issued in the form of a manuscript copy. As a collection of titles of some 3000 books more or less bearing on Aristotle, the work must have taken a good deal of time and labor, and M. Schwab deserves credit for the industry that this implies, and also for the good intentions shown in this attempt to supply a real want among scholars and bibliographers. Here our praise of him and his book must end."

ARNOLD, Thomas. Findlay J. A. Arnold of Rugby: his school life and contributions to education. N. Y., Macmillan, 1897. 24+263 p. 12°, *net*, $1.50.

Pages 236–252 contain an annotated bibliography of works relating to Arnold's influence as a teacher, and to public school education before and after his time.

BIBLE. Copinger, W. A. The Bible and its transmission: being an historical and bibliographical view of the Hebrew and Greek texts, and the Greek, Latin, and other versions of the Bible, (both ms. and printed,) prior to the Reformation; with numerous facsimiles. London, Sotheran, 1897. F.

COREA. Courant, Maurice. Bibliographie coréenne. Tableau littéraire de la Corée . . . tome 1–3. Paris, Ernest Leroux, 1897. 215 + 502; 9 + 538; 9 + 446 p.; *also*, Index des transcriptions, 78 p., and Index des caractères, 178 p. 3 v. il. 8°.

The author, as interpreter of the French legation in Tokio, and conversant with the Japanese, Corean, Chinese, and Hindustani languages and literature, is peculiarly qualified to undertake this work. He gives the titles of 3240 works published in Corea until 1890, which he elucidates with information of every kind.

DIVINING ROD. Barrett, W. F. On the so-called divining rod, or *Virgula Divina.* Book I. [*In* Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research, July, 1897. 13: 2–282.]

Pages 12–23 are devoted to a survey of the modern literature on the subject of the divining rod. Referring to John Fiske's essay on "Myths and myth-makers," Prof. Barrett says that it is "perhaps the most extraordinary medley ever put together on the divining rod." This "survey" is confined to English and French works. Next year book II. is to be published, and with it an extensive bibliography.

HAEBLER, Konrad. The early printers of Spain and Portugal. London, Printed for the Bibliographical Society, at the Chiswick Press, March 1897, for 1896. 8 + 168 p. 33 plates. (Illustrated monographs issued by the Bibliographical Society, no. 4.) 8°.

HOUSE DRAINAGE. Gerhard, W: Paul. Bibliography of house drainage, plumbing work, and sewage disposal for houses. (*In American Architect and Building News.* Aug. 7, 14, 1897. 57: 50–51, 57–58.)

ITALY. Ottino, G., *and* Fumagalli, G., *comps.* Bibliotheca bibliographica Italica: catalogo degli scritti di bibliologia, bibliografia e biblioteconomia pubbl. in Italia e di quelli risguardanti l'Italia pubblicati all' estero. 2° supplemento annuale, 1896; per cura di Giuseppe Ottino. Torino, Carlo Clausen, 1897. 39 p. O. pap. 2.50 lire.

MEDICINE. "The students' library and its use" is the title of an article in the "Students' number" of the *Lancet* (Aug. 21, p. 440–448), which is of interest to librarians as well. It is chiefly a classified list of the principal medical works, with critical and descriptive notes of each.

RUSSIAN BOOKS; with biographical notes of their authors and translators [1708–1893]; edited by Semen Wassiljewitsch Wéngoroff. St. Petersburg, A Suworin, 1897. v. 1: A–Badadshanow. 8 + 476 p. 8°. 3.50 roubles; v. 2, pts. 1–3; Babajew-Baschuzkij. 144 p. 8°. per pt., 35 kopecks.

The first attempt at a comprehensive bibliog-

raphy of Russian literature. An interesting feature of the work is the inclusion of separate issues, *ottiski* — pamphlets of often but three or four pages, which are exceedingly difficult to find.

SWEDENBORG, Emmanuel. Bibliographical index to the published writings of E. Swedenborg, original and translated; based upon the library of the Swedenborg Society, and supplemented from English and foreign collections, public and private. London, 1897. 38 p. 8°.

WALKER, Francis Amasa. Pages 276–290 of *Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association*, for June, contains a "Bibliography of the writings and reported addresses of Francis A. Walker," arranged chronologically, and based upon memoranda and scrapbooks left by General Walker.

WESLEY, John *and* Charles. Green, Richard. The works of John and Charles Wesley: a bibliography, containing an exact account of all the publications issued by the brothers Wesley, arranged in chronological order, with a list of the early editions, and descriptive and illustrative notes. Lond., For the author, 1896. 291 p. 8°.

In turning the pages of this bibliography one is at a loss to determine whether he is impressed more by the tremendous activity of Wesley than by the carefulness and fulness of the annotations which have been supplied by Mr. Green. 417 titles are given, ranging from the years 1733 to 1791, the year of John Wesley's death. 20 of the works are original by Charles Wesley, 30 by the brothers jointly, and the remaining ones by John Wesley alone, either as author or editor. There is an index to titles and another to the notes.

WOMAN AND CHILD LABOR. Madeline M. Milner is the compiler of Special bibliography, no. 1, on "Woman and child labor," published in the *American Journal of Sociology* for July, p. 139–144. It is confined to the literature of the United States.

*INDEXES.*

HENRY FARRAR, 80 Hunton Road, S. E., London, whose various indexes to marriage and obituary notices have been noted in these columns, announces that vol. 1 of his "Index to Irish marriages" will be issued in September. It will make two volumes of about 500 pages, and is sold at £2 2*s.*, only a few copies remaining for sale as a subscription-book. At about the same time he will issue the "Index to obituary notices" in Walker's *Hibernian Magazine* in one volume of about 300 pages, at 31*s.* 6*d. net.*

A CORRECTION. In the "Annual literary index" for 1896, under Stevenson (p. 115), "Stevenson in his home life," instead of Scrib. M., 19 : 53, *read* 19 : 531.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

FONSECA, M. A. da. Subsidios para um diccionario de pseudonymos inicias e obras anonymas de escriptores portuguezes; c. prologo de Th. Braga. Lisbon, 1896 [1897.] 12 + 298 p. 8°.

## Humors and Blunders.

THE following entry from a recent auction catalog shows how a title may be "improved" in process of transcription, "Syrian mountains" for "Assyrian monuments" being an interesting emendation: — Bonavia, E. Flora of the Syrian mountains and its outcomes. Illustrations. 8° cloth. London, 1894.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN — Where shall I put this book, Impressions of America by an Englishman?

Librarian — In the fiction department.— *Current Literature.*

A NEW LIBRARY TERM.—The Boston *Advertiser* has added a new word to the library glossary. It is "catalogician." Truly this is worthy of its birthplace; it could have had no other.

IN the public library of a small town the position of librarian, previously held by a woman, was recently given to a man. The local paper, in noting the appointment, says that it was made only because of "there being some duties connected with the position that are not in the province of a female to perform." Some time ago a similar change in another library was explained by one of the trustees as follows: "Well, you see, we want a librarian we can swear at."

THE library board of a western city, who allowed their librarian two months' leave of absence, with salary, for a trip of library inspection around the country, recently found their action questioned by the city council, whose members refused to pass the account submitted. One of the aldermen, commenting on the matter, said: "I don't believe in making fish of one and fowl of another. We don't allow our firemen but 10 days lay-off on pay. Mr. —— has good pay and gets his room for nothing and his coal."

AT a recent examination of applicants for the position of assistant in a New England library, among the answers received were the following:

Who was Shakespeare? Name three of his works. — Shakespeare was a great American poet. He wrote "Evangeline," "Lady of the lake," and "Courtship of Miles Standish."

When was America discovered? — In 1743.

The town in which the library is situated is but a short distance from New York, and nearly all the applicants were young men and women who had studied at the local high school, which is considered a model.

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**One Vol., 8vo, - 12 Francs, 50c.**

### Revue Internationale des Musées, 1895-1896.

**One Vol., 8vo, - 7 Francs, 50c.**

The above three volumes are separate issues of the *Revue des Archives, des Bibliothèques et des Musées*, the publication of which has been discontinued by me. Libraries that did not subscribe to the *Revue* now have an opportunity to subscribe to such portions only as may have particular interest for them. Each volume has a special title-page and an index.

### Manuel de Bibliotheconomie.

By Dr. ARNIM GRAESEL,

*Librarian-in-Chief of the Berlin University.*

Translated into French

By Dr. JULES LAUDE, *Bibliothécaire Universitaire.*

**One Vol., Small 8vo, Cloth, 15 Francs.**

This French edition has been thoroughly revised by the author. The bibliographical references are brought down to May, 1897, and in other respects, also, the author and translator have made additions and improvements, so that the volume is practically a new work—**a French original edition**—which will be found valuable even by those who possess the German edition (Leipzig, 1890) and the Italian translation (Turin, 1893). In illustrations the French edition is much richer than its predecessors.

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who place their orders before October 30. The publisher reserves the right to increase the price to 20 francs even to subscribers should the cost of production make it necessary.

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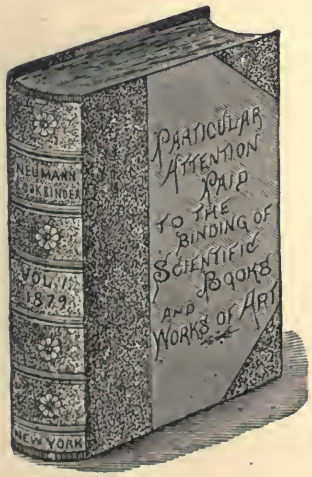


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**Case Library, Cleveland, O.**
Memoirs of Ludlow, v. 3.
Mason's Pequot War, Sabin's reprint.

**Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, O.**
Seven Champions of Christendom. Pub. by Geo. Routledge & Son.

**Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Vt.**
*Library Journal*, April, 1896.
Dorr, Sybil Huntington.
Book of Nursery Tales.
Fairy Gem.
Sagacity of Animals.

**Free Public Library, Jersey City, N. J.**
*Analectic Magazine*, v. 15 and 16. Phila., 1820.

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**Library of The Leland Stanford Jr. University, Palo Alto, Cal.**
*Open Court*, beginning to Jan., 1897.

**The Library Journal, P. O. Box 943, N. Y. City.**
*The Library*, July, 1891.
Title-pages and indexes to *The Library* as follows: v. 2, 1890; v. 4, '92; v. 6, '94.

**New Hampshire State Library, Concord, N. H.**
*Historical Magazine*, 1st series, v. 8–10.

**G. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 W. 23d St., N. Y.**
Liliput Levee. Routledge.
Hamilton's Works, 9 v. Putnam.
Rip Van Winkle, large pap. 1895.
Dinslow, Modern Thinkers. Bedford, C.

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*Our Dumb Animals*, v. 11 to date.
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Wood, H. C., Thermic Fever.

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THE

# Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

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VOL. 22. NO. 10.

*PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE*

OCTOBER, 1897.

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# CONFERENCE OF LIBRARIANS.

## *PHILADELPHIA*,

JUNE 21–25, 1897.

## ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT,

WILLIAM HOWARD BRETT, LIBRARIAN OF THE CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE present meeting of the American Library Association has not only that interest which attaches to all meetings of the Association, as forming one of those milestones by which it is accustomed to mark its annual progress and gather up and preserve in its published proceedings a record of the work of the year, but derives great additional interest from the fact that this is the twenty-first year from the founding of the Association, the year in which we attain our majority, and that we come together to celebrate that event as is fitting in this beautiful city, rich with historic memories, which we are proud to claim as the birthplace of our Association.

The program as prepared for this meeting appears to be one of unusual fulness, and I shall not detain you from it further than to present briefly to you some of the considerations which were present in the minds of your committee in arranging it.

Meeting under such circumstances of time and place, it is but natural that we should recall the founding of our Association, and trace the steps of its progress not merely for the sake of recalling pleasant recollections, nor that we may congratulate ourselves upon a certain satisfactory measure of accomplishment, but that by considering what has been done we may better determine what would best be done in the immediate future, and shape our plans thereto, and that, realizing how much has been accomplished with comparatively slender means, we may look forward with courage and confidence upon a greater future.

The American Library Association held its first meeting in the rooms of the Philadelphia Historical Society, where we were gathered together again so pleasantly last evening. There were present 104 members, of whom 13 were women. These represented 16 states and the District of Columbia. The number of libraries represented was almost 100, and included school and college, proprietary, endowed, and public libraries.

The Association was welcomed at its first session by John William Wallace, president of the Society, in an address in which, after cordially greeting them and referring to the circumstances that attended the meeting, he outlined with remarkable prescience those problems which librarians, both individually and in our Association, have since been striving to solve.

The papers read were upon such practical subjects as cataloging, indexing, bibliography, book sizes, copyright, the qualifications of the librarian and his relations to readers, and the still broader subject of the status of the library in the community. Before adjourning the Association effected a permanent organization, elected officers and appointed a committee on finance and one on co-operation; and in naming this last committee it indicated the means of progress and sounded the keynote of success.

The second meeting of the Association was in connection with the English librarians in an international gathering in London, in 1877, which resulted in the formation of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. Since that time meetings have been held almost every year. They have been held at various points from the extreme east to the Pacific coast. The

Association has had upon its rolls since its formation over 1500 members, and the present membership is almost 800. It includes within its number library trustees, librarians, and those filling other positions in libraries, and some others, who, though not actively engaged in the work of the libraries, are interested in their success. All classes of libraries have continued to be represented. Their essential unity of purpose has been recognized, and the special work of each fairly considered.

The year in which our country celebrated the 100th anniversary of its independence marked a distinct epoch in its history. It began an era of progress in the arts and industries, in literature and education, and it marked also a distinct step forward and the beginning of a new era in the libraries of our country. The progress of American libraries during the quarter of a century dating from a little before the centennial year, has consisted first of a wonderful increase both in the number of libraries in the country, and in the volume of books contained in them, and available for public use; and second, and scarcely less important, in an improvement of library methods, and the reduction of library organization and administration to a system.

The report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the year 1876 furnished for the first time statistics of the number of libraries in the country and of the books contained in them, and the successive reports of 1886, 1893, and 1896 enable us to measure their growth. As you all know there were in 1876, or just before, about 12,000,000 volumes in the libraries of the country. There are now over 33,000,000. That is, in 21 years, or a little more, the libraries of our country have increased nearly 200 per cent., have almost trebled in volume. This growth has been due in part to large and generous gifts for the foundation and endowment of libraries, and even more to a wholesome growth of public appreciation of their value, practically expressed in the willingness of our citizens to tax themselves for their support. These two instrumentalities have given to many of our larger cities magnificently equipped libraries in which broad-minded and far-seeing citizens have erected for themselves monuments more enduring than marble. They have dotted the country here and there with smaller memorial libraries, and have largely increased the number of public libraries.

During the same period noteworthy developments and improvements of library methods have been carried forward. Although before the centennial year much good work was being done in many libraries, there was little attempt at mutual helpfulness, and each librarian did that which was right in his own eyes without the opportunity of availing himself of the experience of others. The report of the Commissioner of Education of 1876 gave not only statistics which I have already mentioned, but also published a series of papers by leaders of the library movement treating of the more important questions of library management, and forming collectively a compendium of the subject which was invaluable to the student of library methods.

The Library Association, with this as a basis, has continued this interchange of opinion, both at its meetings and through the pages of its official publication, the *Library Journal*, and has thus furnished a medium of communication by which the experience of each librarian and the advances and improvements which were made in each library were speedily placed at the service of all. The result of these years of earnest work is that a body of library knowledge has been formulated which is generally accepted. Library architecture, furniture, and appliances have been studied, and the conclusions are so accessible that the architect who chooses to avail himself of them may plan a building which will be pleasant to use, convenient, and economical to administer. Schemes of classification have been devised, comprehensive, yet easy to understand and apply. The principles of cataloging have been studied, and definite rules for its practice prescribed. Formerly, the great catalog was the product of the broad scholarship and assiduous work of a master; a *magnum opus* into which he sometimes put his very life, and which became to him a monument. Now, it simply means trained work according to well-defined rules, producing a certain result; and, speaking broadly, we may say that an adequate catalog is within the reach of every library. Charging systems have been systematized, their principles defined, and the requisites of accuracy and speed measurably attained. Helpful indexes have been devised, and by co-operation placed within the reach of all. Many practical helps to the estimation and selection of books have also been produced. The need of thorough

training for the work has been recognized by the establishment of library schools.

I have thus briefly indicated the various branches of knowledge and practice which form the body of library science and art as it exists to-day. The practical result has been a marked increase in the efficiency of the library. Trustees and librarians, upon whom devolves the pleasant task of organizing a new library, to-day need not grope in the dark as would those of 25 years ago. They may accept a plan from the architect and feel certain that the building, when completed, will be a library building. They can choose intelligently from the various plans of shelving and showing books; they can decide upon plans of classification and cataloging, and feel sure of the result; they can select a charging system with the certainty that it will work; and what is of still greater importance, and would better have been placed at the beginning of this category, the trustees may secure at once the services of a competent librarian instead of experimenting with the raw material.

There is no question but that this increased efficiency of library work has secured for libraries a higher place in the public estimation, and has directed the attention of the generous minded to them, and has thus been a powerful factor in promoting their extension and increase.

This great work has been accomplished by generous and intelligent co-operation, and this co-operation has been mainly brought about through the American Library Association, which has been the bond of union and the means of communication. It is not too much to say that during all these years no important advance has been made in library plans, nor any valuable improvement in library methods and appliances, which was not first proposed by a member of the Association and discussed at its meetings, or in the pages of the *Journal.*

This work of devising appliances, improving methods, and perfecting organization, received the attention of those librarians who organized the Association and carried it forward during those earlier years simply because it was the most pressing need. It was dictated to them by the circumstances. They gave their thought, their time, their work, ungrudgingly and unsparingly to the improvement of methods even in the most minor details, not as an end but as a means; building a machine, no detail of which was insignificant, if it made the machine any more perfect; creating an instrument which was to perform a great work. Great as was this task, however, it would be a mistake to suppose that it entirely absorbed the time and thought of the librarians, or that their interest was confined to the work which could be done within the walls of their libraries. From these earlier times, and increasingly to the present, efforts have been made to enlarge the scope of the work of the library, and to extend its beneficent influence outside of the walls which contain it. In the larger places the area of its influence has been enlarged, and the number of people which it could reach increased by the establishment of branches and delivery stations, doing practically the same work of issuing books as the main library, and being in effect an attempt to take the library to those who cannot conveniently come to it. Travelling libraries bring books temporarily within the reach of such neighborhoods as are without them, with the view not only of supplying an immediate want, but of encouraging the establishment of permanent libraries.

All of this work, however, is simply carrying out the older library idea more fully, broadly, and generously. It brings many more good books within easy reach of many more people than ever before, but apparently leaves the choice of their reading in their own hands. The elements of guidance, supervision, direct instruction, are not apparently provided for. These do, however, enter into modern library work quietly and unobtrusively, but largely. The reader is guided in certain lines by the judgment of those who are forming the library and making it specially full on the lines which seem to them most useful to the particular community, it is limited by their decision as to the fitness of particular books, and influenced also by the catalogs and indexes which are used. More than in any way, however, is the reading of a community moulded for good or for better, by the personal influence of those who have the pleasant duty of meeting those who use our libraries and helping them in the selection of their books. So far as this is done it introduces a new element into library work, making the library no longer a mere reservoir of knowledge, but more distinctly a teaching force. There can be no doubt as to the pro-

priety and value of work in this direction, and no more important question can engage the attention of librarians than the means of doing this work fully, systematically, and efficiently.

The future historian of the library movement, if he be disposed to generalization, may possibly characterize, as I have already suggested, the quarter of a century through which we have just passed as the period of organization.

While it is true that the growth of libraries during this period has been great, it is equally true that this is plainly an increasing growth; that the movement is an accelerating one. The growth of the later years is greater than that of the earlier ones, and libraries are now increasing in number and in size more rapidly than ever before. It seems probable that we are entering upon an era of growth which will exceed that of any previous time, and surpass even the hopes of the most sanguine; that in the generalization of the same historian of whom I have spoken, the period upon which we are entering will be known as the era of library extension. This great work we can, as librarians, promote not only by bringing the work of the library to the highest possible state of efficiency, but also by taking all proper means of calling attention to its value, and letting its good work be known.

A notable thing in the growth and development of the library is the spirit in which it has all been done. It seems natural to trace an analogy between human institutions and the individual man. As we recognize in man the triune nature, body, mind and spirit, so in the institution we may see the trinity of material, method and motive. The library has its body of buildings, appliances and books; its directing intelligence in method and organization; and its spirit of good will and helpfulness which calls it into existence and gives it vitality and value. This is the true library spirit. It is this which brings to libraries endowments and noble gifts and a generous public support. It is this which impels men and women to give their time, their thought, their effort, their very selves to the work. And it is only by an appeal to this same spirit in those who use the library that it can do its best work. It is a truism that an institution can only attain its fullest development and do its best work on lines consistent with its own genius. To an institution founded as a library is upon generosity, and carried on in unselfishness, narrowing rules and hampering regulations are as foreign and repugnant as they are ineffective. The free library can only do its best work by trusting the people who use it, by appealing to their honor and unselfishness, by enlisting their sympathy and securing their help in its work.

Our library system thus organized and thus increasing is doing a more definitely educational work, is filling a larger place among those forces which make for uplifting and bettering social conditions. Among the most important of these forces we recognize the school, the church, the journal. These years of growth of our libraries have also been years in which these institutions have been broadening their work. The school has been applying itself more definitely to the training of its pupils for productive and remunerative occupations, and for the performance of their civic duties. The church seems to be realizing more than ever before how important a part of its mission it is to save men from the evils of this world, to help them in its difficulties, and to increase the happiness and sweetness and joy of living this present life. The spirit and direction of the best journalism, the best authorship, and all the best institutional and individual work, is the same. The library is not only doing its own work in this direction, a work which no other institution can do, but it presents itself as the most effective helper to all other good work.

As the progress and organization of libraries has been accomplished by a close and intelligent co-operation of libraries sharing in the movement, so in the larger work which lies before us we may hope for the greatest results by a recognition of the oneness of purpose of all educational and social work, and a close and cordial co-operation on the part of all engaged in it. The library presents a common meeting ground and can do much to bring about such a co-operation.

May I venture to take a moment or two more of your time to sum up briefly what I have already said, and in so doing to indicate what appears to be the present status of the library movement? The work of the past 25 years has effected a systematic library organization which, while it will be still further perfected

and improved, leaves librarians much freer than formerly for the further extension and broader aspects of the library work. The tendency seems definitely towards freer methods, and the greatest hope for the usefulness of the library lies in that direction. We may hope for, and we may do much to promote, a great additional increase of libraries. We are doing tentatively in various directions much definitely educational work, and in this as in all of the broader work which lies before the library in the future the road to success lies through cooperation, keeping our own organization compact and effective, and lining up together and uniting the efforts of all the forces which make for civilization.

In the program of the meeting, from the consideration of which I will no longer detain you, in addition to the customary review of the progress of the past year as contained in the reports of the officers and committees, we have recognized the need of continuing the discussion of library methods by providing certain sessions for the discussion of elementary problems, and others devoted to the more difficult and advanced problems of library work.

A meeting of the Trustees' Section has been arranged, which it is hoped will be largely attended, and will serve to identify more closely with the Association the members of the governing bodies.

We have given a considerable place upon the program to library architecture as exemplified by the plans proposed for the public library of the greatest city on the continent. We have also provided for the discussion of the advantages of the free library as compared with the proprietary, and at the request of the local committee have set apart one evening for a popular consideration of the free library.

We expect a report of great importance upon the connection of the American Library Association with the National Educational Association, and have also devoted a portion of one session to the discussion of the work of the libraries directly for children.

The Association will also have an opportunity to discuss some proposed changes in its own organization, and to consider whether this can be rendered more effective for the purposes for which it is intended — that is, to voice the collective opinion and carry out the purposes of librarians and to promote the interests of the work.

While the program is thus an exceedingly full one, I believe it is possible by promptness to give due attention to each portion of it, and to this program I now invite your attention.

## WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE PUBLIC MEETING, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, BY FREDERICK M. CRUNDEN, LIBRARIAN ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE present Victorian jubilee has naturally brought out a fresh crop of reminiscences comparing conditions at the beginning of the reign with those now existing. The most striking contrast between the two periods lies in the advances made in the material comforts of life — improvements in lighting and heating, in locomotion and intercommunication. The progress of applied science has been so rapid that some of its most notable achievements have come within the memory of young persons still at school. Telephonic conversation between New York and St. Louis is only a thing of yesterday; aerial navigation is evidently near at hand; and already daring scientists speak hopefully of electric communication with the planets.

But it is not only in this line that the world has advanced. To note great changes in social customs, we need not go back to the last century. Sir Algernon West in a recent magazine article refers to the matter-of-course manner in which his chief was in the habit of announcing to the head clerk that he would not be at the office the following day, as he was to dine out that evening. As an indication of the social changes brought about in his lifetime, he quotes this significant sentence of Mr. Charles Villiers:

"In his young days," said Mr. Villiers, "every young man, even if he was busy, pretended to be idle; now every young man, even if he is idle, pretends to be busy." There is great import in this. When every member of society is usefully employed, our social problems will be well on the way to solution.

To note progress in another direction we need not turn back to the acts of the 14th century, which made it a crime to give or receive more than the wretched wage fixed by law. At the beginning of the Victorian era boys and girls as young as six years worked in mines and factories longer hours than are now required of strong men; and the masses of people were compelled to pay an artificially high price for their bread, in order to increase the unearned wealth of the few.

And in our own country we need not go back to the Salem witchcraft or the persecution of the Quakers. There are still eye-witnesses to tell us that men and women in this "land of the free" were lawfully sold like cattle or flogged to death at the will of their owners. It was a few months after Queen Victoria's accession to the throne that Elijah Parish Lovejoy was killed for daring to say that human slavery was wrong — for advocating, not forcible abolition, but gradual emancipation as "the free, voluntary act of the master, performed from a conviction of its propriety." For maintaining his right to express his opinions on this or any other public question, he was driven from place to place and finally shot down in cold blood. In the city where 60 years ago he fell, a martyr to the cause of free speech, a stately monument — one of the most imposing in the country — was the other day dedicated to his memory. No American better deserves a monument. No leader in the Revolution or the Civil War was a greater hero. In my opinion, the unquestioned courage of the great Union commander is dwarfed and paled by the simple heroism of this young preacher-editor, who gave his life to a greater cause than even the preservation of the Union. Yet for some years after his death, in many cities of this country, it would have been hazardous for a man to utter his eulogy.

Here, then, is a marked advance. But we have not yet obtained entire freedom of speech on live topics. Was it not as late as last year that we heard of two librarians holding opposite political views, whose positions were rendered insecure by an unfortunate misadjustment of longitudes and political opinions? And not many miles from here a score of good, earnest men were jailed for advocating, disinterestedly, and at considerable self-sacrifice, a method of taxation that did not meet the approval of the city authorities. Still we have made great progress toward a broad tolerance. We not only permit the practice of all religious forms, but we even allow a man to deny himself the consolations of religion in any form if he chooses to do so.

In science, at least, there is absolute freedom of thought and expression. One may publish arguments to prove that the world is five thousand, or five hundred million years old, and no one will molest or denounce him; or he may announce a new theory of the universe with our moon as the stationary centre, and no state or church will anathematize him or compel him to recant. It is not till he enters the field of politics, *i.e.*, the discussion of economic and sociological questions with a view to immediate practical results, that the advocate of new ideas reaches the danger-point. Here he finds vested interests — self-styled "vested rights," but as often vested wrongs — on guard and alert to repel intrusion and resist inquiry. These summon to their aid the legions of unreasoning conservatism; and the innovator is made to feel the truth of the saying that there is no pain so keen as the pain of a new idea — from which, therefore, mankind has always shrunk, as a child shrinks from the surgeon's knife. We have passed the period of rack and stake; but social and business ostracism are pretty effective, while occasionally there are suggestions of tar-buckets or bullets. For the most part, however, we content ourselves with denouncing the proposer of any marked departure from existing political or sociological conditions as a "socialist," a "communist," and an "anarchist," using these terms indiscriminately as abusive epithets without any definite knowledge of their meaning. From the beginning of time every social advance — and until recently every forward step in science or religion — has been regarded as menacing the very foundations of society. The Reform Act of 1832, which simply took the first step towards correcting the grossest political abuses, was looked upon by the Duke of Wellington and other good men as threatening the very existence of the kingdom. The condition of affairs then existing, they considered, if

not the best possible, at any rate vastly better than the political chaos that would be sure to result from change. Speaking on this blind conservative opposition to the Reform Bill, Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, said :

"All that resistance to these natural changes can effect is to derange their operation, and make them act violently and mischievously instead of healthfully, or at least harmlessly. The old state of things is gone past recall, and all the efforts of all the tories cannot save it; but they may by their folly, as they did in France, get us a wild democracy or a military despotism in the room of it, instead of letting it change quietly into what it is, merely a new modification of the old state. One would think that people who talk against change were literally as well as metaphorically blind, and really did not see that everything in themselves and around them is changing every hour by the necessary law of its being.

"There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and so convulsive to society, as the strain to keep things fixed, when all the world is, by the very law of its creation, in eternal progress; and the cause of all the evils of the world may be traced to that natural but most deadly error of human indolence and corruption — that our business is to preserve and not to improve."

In his retrospect of the Victorian reign, in the June *Review of Reviews*, W. T. Stead says: "It is to the stoutest conservatives of our time almost inconceivable that rational beings could ever have defended the system that prevailed in Britain sixty years ago."

I am no more assured of the rising of to-morrow's sun than I am that to the stoutest conservatives of 1950, it will appear "almost inconceivable that rational beings could ever have defended the system that prevails in America to-day." They will, however, resist further progress as doggedly as do the conservatives of to-day, even while these see plainly how absurd was the attitude of their predecessors of sixty years ago. Your genuine conservative ever holds doggedly to things as they are. He clings tenaciously — and vainly. He belongs to a party whose defeat all history teaches is foredoomed. Now he stands for the divine right of kings; and notwithstanding he is a man of irreproachable character and able, moreover, to show that he is much less autocratic than most of his predecessors, he loses his crown and his head. Again, he stands for the parent country's unlimited power of taxation, and he forfeits his most flourishing colonies. At another period he urges long sufferance as a justification for continuing — even extending — the crime of slavery, and he meets defeat amid slaughter and devastation. No repetition of the lesson will ever teach him to consider what is abstractly right — *what ought to be* without reference to what is.

But the conservative has to be, in accordance with the law of nature, so poetically announced in the song of Willis in *Iolanthe :*

> "That every boy and every gal
> That's born into this world alive,
> Is either a little Liberal,
> Or else a little Conservative !"

Or, as Emerson's prose expresses it —

"The two parties which divide the state — the party of conservatism and that of innovation — are very old and have disputed the possession of the world ever since it was made. This quarrel is the subject of civil history. The conservative party established the reverend hierarchies and monarchies of the most ancient world. The battle of patrician and plebeian, of parent state and colony, of old usage and accommodation to new facts, of the rich and the poor, reappears in all countries and times. . . .

"There is always a certain meanness in the argument of conservatism, joined with a certain superiority in its fact. It affirms because it holds. Its fingers clutch the fact, and it will not open its eyes to see a better fact. The castle which conservatism is set to defend is the actual state of things, good or bad. The project of innovation is the best possible state of things. Of course conservatism always has the worst of the argument, is always apologizing, pleading a necessity, pleading that to change would be to deteriorate. It must saddle itself with the mountainous load of the violence and the vice of society, must deny the possibility of good, deny ideas, and suspect and stone the prophets; while innovation is always in the right, triumphant, attacking, and sure of final success."

But though doomed to defeat, conservatism is not to be denounced or condemned. It is not without its uses. It often keeps us from following untried paths that open out alluringly but end in thickets or quagmires. A brake is

sometimes as necessary to safety as motive power is to progress. But the usual tendency of conservatism is to keep the brakes on all the time, causing either stagnation, retrogression, or a smashup. The real revolutionist is the rock-ribbed conservative. It is the boulder blocking the onward flow of the stream that causes the eddy and the whirlpool.

Those who think on this subject and who really desire the improvement of society — unfortunately a very small class — are divided over the question whether mankind shall progress by the path of individualism or by that of collectivism. Extremists assure us that these paths go in opposite directions, or traverse each other at right angles. The truth is they run parallel; and we have been travelling both, now advancing more on one and then on the other, towards the ultimate goal of humanity — the perfection of society through the elevation of the individual, the perfection of the individual through the improvement of society. Each helps the other; neither can be independent of the other. It often happens that organized society cannot await the slow process of individual perfection. It must accelerate the operation by changing standards and ideals. There is no telling how long it would have required to convince each individual slave-owner of the wrong of human slavery, or each individual mine and factory owner of the wickedness of child-labor. Society had to take the matter in hand and force individual development — in one case by law, in the other by the sword. Many thoughtful persons are raising the question whether society has not more work of this kind ahead of it. There can be no individual perfection or progress under certain social conditions. Ceremonious politeness was not to be expected among the victims of the Black Hole of Calcutta. Starvation has often led to cannibalism among men who would shrink with horror from the thought of it under ordinary conditions. Society can create conditions favorable or unfavorable to the improvement of the individual.

The inevitable outcome of the struggle between individualism and collectivism is the triumph of each in its own proper field.

A line drawn from the past to the present shows the trend of the future. We find this embodying two distinct, and apparently contradictory, tendencies — one towards greater individual freedom, the other towards a constant extension of the principle of co-operation, or collectivism. That is, organized society leaves ever greater freedom to the individual in all those things that concern only him, while at the same time it extends farther and farther its supervision and performance of those things that pertain to the welfare of all, and which society can do for the individual better than he can do for himself. A man may kiss his wife on Sunday without scandal or fear of prosecution; and he may dress in any manner he pleases within the bounds of convention, which is still an unreasoning tyrant. He is generally glad to avail himself of the more convenient water-supply provided by the community; but he may, if he wishes, have a well in his yard, until, with the growth of the city, this becomes a menace to his neighbors' health; then it must be closed. He may still mould his own tallow candles and use no other light if he prefers; but co-operation among consumers supplies him with a much superior illuminant; and when this co-operation is extended to embrace all the citizens — *i.e.*, when gas or electricity is furnished by the municipality, the cost is reduced, and he becomes a partner in the profits.

Of the benefits of municipal co-operation we had a signal illustration in the introduction of municipal sprinkling in St. Louis. Formerly, the occupant of a fifty-foot lot paid a private contractor from $6 to $12 a season, while he suffered from the dust blown from his neighbors' frontage and from unsprinkled streets all over the city. Now the owner of a fifty-foot lot pays about $1 a year and enjoys sprinkled streets throughout the whole city. Municipal co-operation in libraries brings the same kind of benefits. The average well-to-do reader, instead of a five-dollar subscription fee, pays a dollar tax; and for that not only he and his family, but also the families of his neighbors, have access to a superior library. And as it is almost as necessary for your comfort that your neighbor's frontage should be sprinkled as your own, so it is almost as important to you for your neighbor's children to have access to a library as for your own.

While social evolution tends to relieve the individual of the compulsion of law, and also to lessen the pressure of public opinion, in those affairs that pertain only to his own life, correlatively his action is more and more restricted in

so far as it affects his neighbors and society in general — though here, too, law and custom tend more and more to individual freedom. It was once regarded as a public scandal not to go to church; and 50 years ago in St. Louis Unitarians were shunned as suspicious characters. But *pari passu* with the growth of individual liberty has grown the recognition of the duty of society to see that all persons have equal liberty — to protect the weak against the strong. Nothing in Victoria's reign has done more for the progress of England than the series of acts that have been passed to curb the greed of mine and factory owners, to prevent them from coining the muscle and manhood of Britain into gold — in a way that, at one period, threatened to exhaust the vitality of the race — to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

The whole history of mankind is a continuous struggle of the weak and ignorant many to secure the rights withheld from them by the superior strength and cunning of the few. The oppression and injustice of the past are apparent to all; but many of us, like the conservative antagonists of Cobden and Bright, fail to see anything seriously wrong in the present; and, like them, we fear change. But it is the part of wise men to welcome change as the natural order of the universe — to see that it is a change for the better.

It does not by any means follow that every new idea is a good one, that every proposed change would be an improvement. But as progress is the law of the universe, it rests with the old order to show why it should be continued. Wisdom, therefore, urges us to give careful consideration to new ideas, however contrary they may be to prevalent opinions, bearing in mind the frequent lesson of history that "the stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner," and approaching all questions in the spirit of St. Paul's injunction: "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." For all political and social problems, which are the burning questions of to-day, there is, it seems to me, a simple test in Herbert Spencer's "first principle": "Every man may claim the fullest liberty to exercise his faculties compatible with the possession of like liberty by every other man." Legislation that does not square with the self-evident truth and justice of this dictum is bad legislation, and must prove maleficent to the nation, state, or city that enacts it. I need not offer any modern instances.

Reasoning in reverse order, *i.e.*, from effect to cause, we may be sure that when we see in a country abounding in natural resources, as ours is, inhabited by the most intelligent, energetic, and resourceful people the world has ever seen — when we see in such a country millions of willing workers in enforced idleness; when, to account for this idleness and its attendant want and destitution, we are offered the absurdity of "overproduction" of the very things for which millions are suffering; when we see men and women who toil not revelling in luxury, while others who labor sixteen hours a day are barely able to keep body and soul together, we may know absolutely, without further investigation, that there is something fundamentally wrong in our social organization.

This is not the time or place to point out these wrongs specifically, or to advance, even in the most general terms, what, after much thought, I believe to be the remedies. I merely urge the thoughtful study of social problems without bias or prejudice. This state of open-mindedness is not easy to achieve. We think that we think our own thoughts; but, as Tarde, the French psychologist, says: "What the individual hypnotizer is to his sleeping and abnormally plastic subject, such, almost precisely, is society to the waking and normally plastic man."*

On the solution of social problems, Ibsen says: "There is only one thing that avails — to revolutionize people's minds." This was a difficult task about so plain a matter as the Copernican system, which was opposed by the combined learning and piety of Europe. How much more difficult must it be when the change affects the every-day life of every individual? As Nitti says: "Had the propositions of Euclid affected economic interests they would still appear a doubtful hypothesis of arduous solution."

The public library is destined to play an important part, to exercise an incalculable influence in the solution of the social problems of to-day, and through this on the future of the nation and the race. The wisdom needed for this task is not to be obtained from schools or colleges,

* "As, then, in philosophy the first step is to begin by doubting everything, so, in social philosophy, the first step is to throw aside all supposed absolute rights." — JEVONS.

but from the higher education of mature minds — the masses of the people — which the public library alone can give. The *preparation* for this higher education of the masses devolves on the schools and colleges. Their curricula should be so arranged as to arouse "historic consciousness" in the youngest child, to awaken social conscionsness, and to provide for its continuous development by starting every boy and girl on a career of self-culture — by matriculating every child in the People's University, the Public Library. In affairs that concern society as a whole, it is better to trust the well-informed common-sense of the people than the learning of the schoolmen. It is not knowledge of mathematics or physics, or Greek and Latin, or modern languages; it is not the study — academic study — of history, or philosophy, or even political economy, that will solve the great social problems that now confront us. These will help in various degress, directly or indirectly, some more, some less, some, perhaps, not at all. A knowledge of the general course of history is essential; some acquaintance with philosophy is useful; dogmatic theology serves only to confuse, but the true religion that lies in a vital acceptance of Christ's two commandments as a summary of the law and the prophets — that is the greatest aid of all. Such, however, is the influence of established order on men's minds that no investigation will avail without a determination to take nothing for granted, to re-examine what have been considered basic principles, to accept no postulates that do not square with reason and justice. This cannot be done by confining our reading to the accepted standards of a generation or a century ago. We must keep abreast of the thought of the time; we must keep our eyes and ears, and still more our minds, open; we must scorn no aids to enlightenment; but we must do our own thinking; we must consider the *idea*, not the source from which it came, remembering that good may come out of Nazareth; we must live up to the motto: "Truth for authority, not authority for truth," and we must "lend a hand."

My faith in the efficacy of the education offered by the public library is not without foundation. In more than one case I have seen a course of lectures or the reading of a single book lead to a course of reading in economics and sociology, which has entirely changed points of view. New ideals, higher standards, have made new men with higher lines of action. Their natures have not been changed, but their visions have been clarified.

One of the stock arguments which conservatism always brings out to give a final quietus to any proposal for social reform, is — "Oh, that's impossible; you'd have to change human nature!" This mental attitude, which, I am sorry to say, is the prevailing one with the great majority of mankind, is admirably satirized in some verses which I had great pleasure in printing in the April number of the St. Louis *Public Library Magazine:*

There was once a Neolithic Man, an enterprising wight,
Who made his simple instruments unusually bright.
Unusually clever he, unusually brave,
And he sketched delightful mammoths on the border of his cave.
To his Neolithic neighbors who were startled and surprised,
Said he: "My friends, in course of time we shall be civilized!
We are going to live in cities and build churches and make laws!
We are going to eat three times a day without the natural cause!
We're going to turn life upside down about a thing called Gold!
We're going to want the earth, and take as much as we can hold!
We are going to wear a pile of stuff outside our proper skins;
We're going to have Diseases! and Accomplishments!! and Sins!!!
Then they all rose up in fury against this boastful friend
For prehistoric patience comes quickly to an end.
Said one, "This is chimerical! Utopian! absurd!"
Said another, "What a stupid life! Too dull, upon my word!"
Cried all, "Before such things can come, you idiotic child,
*You must alter Human Nature!*" and they all sat back and smiled!
Thought they, "An answer to that last it will be hard to find!"
It was a clinching argument — to the Neolithic Mind!

Yes, great progress and reform can be accomplished without changing human nature. The elemental forces in the heart of man are the same now as in the earliest recorded ages, and they are likely to remain the same for all time to come. We cannot change the elements of man's nature; but by changing conditions we can improve the product of reaction. We can elevate conduct by elevating ideals. There was a time when the man who could wield the heaviest battle-axe was the greatest man; and there are still circles in which Corbett and Fitz-

simmons are regarded as the greatest men of the present day. But the men who now excite most general admiration are our "captains of industry," the men who succeed in getting money and the luxury and power it commands. How shall we elevate our national ideals?

Selfishness is a mainspring of human action. A like motive, desire for happiness, sets men to fighting dogs and to founding hospitals. Nero found pleasure in one way, Marcus Aurelius in another. Charles I. and Louis XVI. were not bad men; but they were controlled by outgrown standards. Elizabeth, Napoleon, Peter, and Catherine of Russia sought their own pleasure in accordance with their personal characters and the standards of their times. But how much higher and purer pleasure the devotion of their talents to the service of their fellow-men brought to Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln, Cobden, Bright and Gladstone — and John Pounds!

False standards, low ideals, now lead many good men to find their pleasure, not in cruelty, not in sensuality, but in the accumulation of wealth, partly for the luxury, chiefly for the power it brings. "Superfluity comes sooner by white hairs, but competency lives longer."

With the spread of intelligence and thought, and the consequent elevation of popular ideals, men possessed of millions will not seek to add to their large legitimate gains by legalized robbery from their fellow-citizens; and people calling themselves Christians will not rejoice in the distress and starvation of their fellow-men across the ocean. Men will still be selfish; but the conflict of selfishness will at least be on a higher plane — less intense, less destructive of essential rights.

How shall we most speedily bring about this desired consummation? By what agency can we most effectively elevate our national ideals? By extending and improving our system of popular education, by reversing the usual order and beginning where school curricula now end, by placing our school-children from their earliest years into close and familiar contact with the life and thought of the race as expressed in literature, by exciting in every child admiration and emulation of the world's true heroes, by feeding the imagination and cultivating the moral faculties, by putting every child into the way of acquiring a social and a historic perspective.

I suppose I am one of those simple-minded, visionary optimists of whom Prof. Royce speaks. But I do not "dislike" economic facts in the sense of ignoring them, and I am not blind to the persistence of the elemental forces of human nature. But as the abolition of slavery changed men's mental attitude towards this social crime, without at all changing human nature, just so I believe that the adoption of other social reforms would in a generation cause all men to look with horror and wonder upon social injustice that nearly every one now ignores or regards as irremediable and inevitable. I share Ruskin's scorn of the word "Utopian." "A thing is either possible or impossible." As Carlyle says, "The actual final rights of man lie in the far deeps of the ideal. Every noble work is at first impossible." In the A. L. A. we have heard the word "Utopian," or its equivalent, on more than one occasion met by the motto, "Hitch your wagon to a star"; and we have seen the impracticable an accomplished fact.

If time permitted I might risk ridicule by presenting some features of the vision that I see with the eye of faith in an all-wise and all-powerful Creator and belief in human perfectibility as an infinite progress.

> "Die Zukunft decket
> Schmerzen und Glücke
> Schrittweis dem Blicke;
> Doch ungeschrecket,
> Dringen wir vorwärts."

> "New occasions teach new duties;
> Time makes ancient good uncouth!
> They must upward still and onward
> Who would keep abreast with truth."

## THE LIBRARIAN AND THE IMPORTER.

BY ERNST LEMCKE, OF LEMCKE & BUECHNER, IMPORTERS, NEW YORK.

I RISE to address you, not without a certain feeling of embarrassment, for every man, in Lowell's phrase, is more or less consciously the prisoner of his date; I may add of his native country, and last but not least, of his profession. It is never wise to eliminate the personal equation entirely from things which concern us, nor do I pretend to speak for any one but myself; but I would not be understood as making an *oratio pro domo* when my aim is to voice, as far as it is possible, what I at least assume to be the opinion and experiences of my *confrères* as well as of myself.

My subject being the Librarian and the Importer, I need not dwell on the former in this company, composed in overwhelming numbers of librarians — who, as a class, devote more time to introspection than does any other profession — unless, perhaps, it be to state that the librarian, as a bookbuyer, and the importer, as a bookseller, are opposite, but not necessarily antagonistic poles. The true equator in the shape of discounts is, or might be, somewhere midway between them. If the bookseller could halve the publisher's discounts and the librarian be satisfied, chiliasm would be at hand and some on my side of the true divisional line would be enabled to found or endow libraries. How far we are from such a state of affairs you and I know only too well.

It is not so generally known what the importer is, or aims to be; namely, your home bookseller, or in Dr. Billings's definition, "a bookseller pure and simple, as all booksellers are supposed to be," doubled with the foreign agent, or several of them, your shipping agent, insurance and customs-house broker, and your banker, all in one. Perhaps Dr. Billings would define the importer as the bookseller impure and double. He really is, in Mr. W. E. Foster's happy phrase, on both sides of the Atlantic at the same time. If you count up singly all the commissions these several intermediaries necessarily charge you, you will come to the conclusion that the importer saves you much work and much time and much money, and is really your best friend,

The importer aims to be the "ideal bookseller" recently referred to in many newspaper discussions on the "Decay of the bookseller." He is what M. Le Soudier, of Paris, in his official report on books and printing in the United States, describes him to be, from actual observation: "Among the retail booksellers we should name the 'importers,' who are, at the same time, the most important retailers of American books. They are the ones who, from a profound knowledge of the trade, give librarians and private customers most varied information on books in general, which the American retailer would find it impossible to give. They study catalogs and circulars and file them methodically. Certain houses, for their own use, keep a card catalog (of American books) so that it is always up to date." Thus far M. Le Soudier.

This seems a large contract to take in this time of specialization. But the harder the marble the finer the statue which is chiselled from it. Man grows with his higher aims; the more you tax your memory, the better work will it do. The question, how to cover so wide a field successfully, is reduced to one of organization. The range of the information asked of the importer in his daily correspondence covers the length and breadth of the whole field of human activity as reflected in the printed book, from a grammar of the language of the Society Islands, or the edition of Ossian in English, published by subscription in Germany, with Goethe and his friend Merck as publishers, some 120 years ago — you see that blight of the book trade, subscription-books, is not so new a thing — down to lists of the best Bohemian and Polish books, Boniface book sixth, a treatise on horseless carriages, or a history of the second person *dualis* of the lost second aorist of a defective Greek irregular verb.

The ideal head of a large importing firm should be, in the first place, a man of business training and ability, with a sufficiently large capital for every emergency; he should be just as much, what librarians hate to be

called, a "walking cyclopædia." This he cannot be, any more than the librarian, but he must have learned what German universities aim to teach — the knowledge how to learn. His professional library is as extensive and as expensive as that of any one in the learned professions. How to use it to advantage is his accomplishment. It has been my privilege to assist trained bibliographers and catalogers, and in two minutes to lay before them the information they had vainly searched for in the largest libraries. The ideal bookseller, it seems to me, is born, not made. Some of the brightest men I have employed never learned the finer points of our art.

The departments of the importer's business are periodicals and books. Periodicals, again, are divided into American and foreign. The American part is profitless. For a very small commission the importer supplies American periodicals in a manner satisfactory to librarians who want complete files with titles and index. With the cheap agencies that do not pretend to do more than book the order with the publisher, he does not wish to compete, but what he agrees to do he carries out, and tries to give satisfaction.

To foreign periodicals the importer pays special attention. As against importation by mail direct, which is more expensive and naturally risky, losses being unavoidable, the importer's method of importation in bales offers great advantages. Whoever has seen the New York post-office when three or four foreign steamers dump their tons of printed matter into it, must become convinced that a great portion of it never can, and never does, reach its destination. The covers and addresses, especially of French periodicals, are torn off in transit. The post-office, in one day, while we used to import by mail ourselves, often sent up a dozen detached addresses and requested identification of the contents. In the room where the coverless papers are stored the mass is bewildering and identification is impossible. Except when specially ordered by mail, all foreign periodicals come in weekly bales from London, Paris, and Leipzig, forwarded by special arrangement, in the mail-room of the fleetest steamers afloat. A cabled bill of lading serves to make a so-called "tropical fruit entry," so that these bales are delivered the moment the steamer makes fast, usually earlier than letters can be sorted and delivered. All papers are sent flat, in perfect shape for ultimate binding, recorded, and re-mailed in New York. Complete files are thus insured. Notwithstanding the expense of this mode of importation, prices are made lower than mail-copies cost. Losses are prevented so far as human care permits. If a steamer founders, all of course is lost, but the importer knows what his bale contained, and duplication is ordered by cable. Many a number, especially of French, and scientific journals generally, cannot be bought separately, but a firm that has a reputation to lose does not shrink from buying afresh a whole year's issue to replace one single number. When the German steamer *Elbe* went down a couple of years ago in the German Ocean, not a single one of our subscribers was left with a broken file.

The foreign agents, the publishers themselves, cannot furnish German and English periodicals at as low rates as bulk importation enables the New York importer to charge. The case is in so far different with French journals, as the prices which you see printed on the covers are absolutely net prices, for private subscribers, libraries, and the trade alike. The importer receiving his bales by the most expensive of all, the French line from Havre, cannot pay out of the half franc allowance on a 20-franc magazine the cost of insurance, freight, packing, cable invoice, handling, and United States bulk rate postage. A library preferring to be its own importer can, seemingly, save a few cents by subscribing direct at the publisher's. Few count the annoyance and minor expenses of doing so, but are promptly undeceived when the first loss in the mails occur. Some foreign agents induce American libraries to subscribe through them to French periodicals, and quote low prices, but render extra bills for postage. In examining such an account, I found that a certain library withdrew its order from the New York importer who charged $6.50 for a paper which the foreign agent offered for $6, but he rendered a separate bill of $1 for postage. Besides, his service was four weeks behind in time. The correspondence with librarians and boards of trustees about the prices of French periodicals is one of the most unpleasant parts of the importer's business. Every tub must stand on its own bottom, and French or other net magazines cannot be supplied at a loss. A fair price must be charged for competent and

satisfactory work. The net price system begins to crop up largely in the newspaper field, and the quotation of general rates becomes impossible. It is very evident that the New York importer cannot be expected to deliver at Chicago or San Francisco for $2.50 a 10-shilling net newspaper, when the average expense of importing periodicals comes very near 20 per cent. of the actual outlay.

The book departments are the American and the foreign. About the former you heard last year. The importer is not above furnishing the "Bessie books" or "Poor old Roe," or any current novel. The foreign book department is subdivided by countries. A large importer has his branches or his own clerks in London, Paris, or Leipzig. Orders are promptly acknowledged from the New York office, and go out by every mail steamer to be filled immediately. This makes cancellation, except by cable, impossible. The books come by the fleetest steamers afloat; naturally, also, the most expensive. Further subdivisions are: new books, second-hand books, and serials. Lists are kept of every book coming out in parts; every bibliography is scrutinized to reclaim parts which publishers may overlook sending on standing orders. The book orders go to South and Central America, the Hawaiian Islands, Cape Colony, Australia, Syria, Egypt, and the Indies. With prominent publishing houses everywhere open accounts are kept.

This knowledge of, practically, the book-marts of the whole world, gives the importer great advantages, of which he invites the librarian to avail himself. In these days of the breaking down of national boundary lines and of increased international intercourse, even smaller libraries have calls for foreign books, and to-day there is an added force in the truth of Dr. Cogswell's statement, made nearly 40 years ago, when he said: "In collecting books for a library which aims to be a good and great one, the proper question is, What is the merit of a work, not, In what language is it written?" Such knowledge is especially valuable in procuring sets of periodicals and serials. An American magazine may often be bought cheaper in England or Germany than here, and *vice-versa*. The foreign dealer knows that the New York importer is well posted as to current prices, and for ready cash prefers to sell to him cheaper than to a travelling librarian, or to a house that comes into the market to try an experiment or fill an occasional order once in a while.

The importer employs binderies specially trained for library work, and with large orders and ready cash commands the lowest terms. Work of any description can be done, from a buckram to an extra Turkey morocco gilt-top binding, at low prices. In binding recently some later issues of a French author, I found that my charge for binding in Paris, after a sample furnished, was 50 per cent. cheaper than the price of the foreign agents who had supplied the earlier volumes. Sample bindings are kept of all unfinished or serial publications.

Rare and out of print books are constantly kept in view on card lists. Advertisements in the several trade organs are tried and lists of desiderata circulated. If unlimited time is given, good bargains can usually be made. One may advertise for a book a whole year without result; in the first month thereafter several copies may be offered.

The importer compiles and edits, often at great expense, catalogs and bulletins, and is gratified to find that his efforts are appreciated.

Altogether, the business of the importer is more laborious and painstaking than that of the ordinary bookseller. Every librarian has some idea of the cost of American books, but few orders for foreign books, except from the largest libraries, come without preliminary correspondence, which takes up much time. The looking up of data, especially when garbled titles and wrongly-spelled names are given, can seldom be entrusted to clerks. Much ingenuity and book-knowledge are required to correct such mistakes. These are especially annoying when estimates are required before an order is placed. Whenever the librarian has correct and full information as to surname, Christian name, title, and above all, date of publication, he should not fail to give it. The Duponts and Durands, the Meyers and Schultzes, in French and German, are as plentiful as the Browns and Smiths in English, and may take the better part of a day to be traced. The librarian has no idea how his memory is blessed if his letter comes in such shape that it can be used for the necessary notes, with plenty of margin, a line for each title, so that a clean copy can be made from it.

It is more easy to fill an order than to make a

correct estimate, especially for American books, as the discounts of publishers, both here and abroad, vary more and more. "Net" books multiply. The dealer who overlooks the diacritical marks, stars and daggers, in the publishers' catalogs, and ventures on quoting a general discount for a long list, may secure the order as against him who works conscientiously, and with fuller knowledge of facts does not promise a third off on books which the publisher sells with a fifth at best. But the former will either lose money or have to report many "shorts," while the latter can make good his bid.

As a general rule, libraries which order without previous estimate buy more cheaply. The dealer saves much time and can and does give a liberal customer liberal terms and his full share of extra benefits and bargains. Our arrangements with our best friends are such that they can verify prices easily from publishers' lists, librarians reading stars and daggers as readily as booksellers; and this holds good for American as well as for foreign books.

The genesis of an estimate for a government library was recently told from my actual experience in the pages of *The Publishers' Weekly*, so that I need not detain you here with its repetition.

Prices and general terms depend upon circumstances. While Dr. Cogswell's remark of 40 years ago, anent the opening of the Astor Library, that it is a real degradation of books to value them by dollars and cents, may be true, even from the librarian's standpoint, no one should pay more than a book is worth in open market, and the dealer who overcharges kills the hen that lays the golden egg — which is, at best, a silver egg nowadays.

Yet, the craze for cheapness has gone as far as, or perhaps farther than, it should. I know of two once prosperous firms that have failed because they sold too many books to libraries. In England and Germany also the rage for cheapness is hastening the book trade into bankruptcy. But it is a fact that the American library, through the New York importer, buys European books cheaper than does the British Museum, the Royal Library of Berlin, or the Paris National Library. Competition on the one side, and the size of orders on the other, have brought about this state of affairs. But the size of an order has something to do with the rate applied. An occasional order cannot and usually is not expected to be filled by fair-minded librarians at rates which pay a small profit only if the order is of considerable amount. We have been told by two Presidents of the United States that cheapness is the cause of all evil, that the demand for a cheap coat involves a cheaper man and woman in the coat, that cheap and nasty go together, and that the cry for cheapness is un-American. The cheapness of the department stores is fast becoming a political issue, and I must say it is enough to sicken the lover of literature to see the books of our most aristocratic publishers which the legitimate dealer buys with one-third or two-fifths off, slaughtered on the bargain-counters at five cents on the dollar. It certainly does not seem the right thing for large libraries to cut estimates into two, four, or ten different orders, and to merely order the cheapest single books from one firm which, in the aggregate, may have quoted the lowest figure. Let me ask you, ladies and gentlemen, how you would like the idea of our public libraries advertising for bids for the lowest-priced librarian or assistant? There are times when the librarian needs the bookseller who, in turn, is the means of saving the librarian's time and money, and, generally speaking, is satisfied with profits, which in any other calling, requiring a large capital, broad culture and accomplishments in ancient and modern languages, would be scorned as beggarly. As Dr. Billings puts it "The librarian cannot do his work without the aid of the bookseller, but the bookseller can get along very well without the patronage of the librarian. The bookseller knows, or should know, all that the average librarian knows and a number of things besides; for example, how to make money, which no librarian knows much about." But Dr. Billings forgets to say how well the librarian knows how to prevent the bookseller from profiting by his, in this one respect, supposed superior knowledge.

It remains to touch upon the importer's relation with publishers with whom he must needs keep on good terms. He must shoulder losses for returns of duplicates ordered by mistake, which he cannot refuse to a library, while some publishers are very unaccommodating to the bookseller.

The publisher should refrain from undersellling the dealer. Some publishers are more

liberal than others and recognize the value of the retailer, the great German firms declining orders from private buyers, and at least one London firm, that of Fisher Unwin, which I take pleasure in naming, prints on its lists the notice that on application he will furnish the address of the dealer through whom his books can be had. There are others not so disposed.

The New York importer, as against the foreign agent for American libraries, is a theme which it would not be becoming in me to enlarge upon. Most of you have made your own experiments, but I may say this much, that accounts which I have examined, professedly showing foreign net prices with a good commission added and all expenses charged to the American library, displayed a great elasticity of discounts. The American importer whom you meet socially and whose character you know, would find such policy ruinous to his business. Mr. Andrews, some years ago, published his experiences as to the advantages of the New York importer over the foreign agent, with chapter and verse, in the *Library Journal*, so that I need not go into particulars here.

The importer does close figuring in the interests of his library clients to supply the cheaper edition, if there is an American edition in the market, as compared with a London edition imported free of duty. His services give to libraries the advantages of greater promptness; one single account with one responsible firm within easy reach for correspondence for all purchases, returns, claims, and remittances; prompt acknowledgment of all orders; and the possibility of examining new foreign books before purchasing. I claim, naturally, also lower terms.

There is one more thing to mention. I believe we shall never attain that state of perfect bliss when Mr. Charles A. Dana's proposition of "Cash down and higher prices," made to the paper-makers at a recent banquet in New York, will have application to librarian and importer. But such terms would not be unreasonable. If I send an order abroad to-day the cash to pay for it must be ready in my European offices, laid down there 60 days ago. The books are bound and the binder expects cash. All expenses, packing, freight, insurance, customs brokerage are cash. My clerk-hire and store rent are cash. Yet, it is on an average four to six months before the check for the bill comes back to me, involving a loss of two per cent. or three per cent. interest on so much money. Even for periodical subscriptions, which are invariably paid cash in advance, a couple of months' interest is in most cases lost, and often more. Still, the New York importer is anxious for your trade, small as the profits are, for there is little or none of the element of risk connected with most other business transactions, and it flatters his pride to supply large or small libraries and many of them.

Let me conclude with Mr. Shaylor's remarks from an article in the December *Nineteenth Century* of last year:

"I am fully convinced that the bookseller who has a well-informed mind and one always capable of development, who takes an interest in his trade because he loves books, and who has business capabilities worthy of his trade, is bound to make more than a bare living. He will not now, probably, leave a fortune behind him, but he will have the satisfaction of being associated with the greatest minds of his age, as well as with that distinguishing characteristic of a nation's intelligence — its literature. Booksellers may console themselves by being classed with those who follow literature as a profession, and of whom Froude has said, 'It happens to be the only occupation in which wages are not given in proportion to the goodness of the work done.'" Mr. Froude might just as truthfully have said instead of *littérateurs*, the Librarian and the Importer.

# LOCAL SUPERVISION OF TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

BY F. A. HUTCHINS, SECRETARY OF THE WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION.

THE travelling libraries in Wisconsin have been managed somewhat differently from others of their kind, and while the peculiar characteristics came by force of circumstances and not from design, it is worth the while to note the peculiarities and some advantages arising from them. To understand them it will be necessary to describe briefly the origin and development of the libraries.

There are now six systems of travelling libraries in Wisconsin, and each has a large library as a centre. All but one of these systems confines its work to a county.

The pioneer system was established by Hon. J. H. Stout in Dunn county, and has been the pattern for all. Dunn county is in the northwestern part of the state, and while the first clearing within its limits was made about fifty years ago, large parts of it have been cleared and settled within the last twenty years. It contains two-thirds as many square miles as Rhode Island, and has but 22,000 inhabitants, of whom 7000 live in Menomonie, which is the county town. There is one hamlet of about 400 inhabitants and another of 300, but most of the country people are farmers. In a few townships the farmers are fairly well-to-do, in a few they are struggling with a poor soil, and in others they are working out excellent farms on land that has been covered with very heavy timber. There are many Germans and Norwegians, but the American spirit is dominant, and the country schools are among the best in the state. Nearly every school has a library of from 10 to 40 volumes. The hamlets have school libraries of from 50 to 200 volumes. Many of the books, however, are somewhat difficult for the children, and the young people who do not attend school and the older people use the school libraries but little.

Most of the county is quite hilly, and the farms frequently follow the streams in the valleys. Many of the travelling library stations are not readily accessible to more than 15 or 20 families. There are two railroads running east and west through the county, and one reaching Menomonie from the south, but the most of the post-offices get their mail from stages.

Mr. Stout is a trustee of an excellent library in Menomonie, which is maintained by a family who are his friends. Its books are free to all residents of the county. The librarian is not only intelligent, enthusiastic, and well-trained in her profession, but she has a very wide acquaintance in the county. Mr. Stout announced his plans for the travelling libraries in January, 1896, and sent out the first 16 in the following May. In March, 1897, he had 37 libraries and 34 travelling library stations. Three of the libraries have been kept in Menomonie for convenience in exchanging and repairing books. The first libraries contained 30 volumes each, and included only 10 for children on account of the number of school libraries. The demand from children and people who had read English but little was so great, however, that 10 quite simple juvenile books were added to each library. A large proportion of the latter were volumes upon American history and biography.

Of the 34 stations, 22 are in farm-houses, nine in post-offices, two in country stores, and one in a railway station. Two of the post-offices are in small stores and the others are in farm-houses. 26, then, or about two-thirds, are in farm houses, but nearly all are in or near post-offices, and therefore convenient for the people of their neighborhoods. The first 20 libraries sent out were returned to the central library after a summer's use, and showed a total of 732 borrowers and a circulation of 3257. The largest number of borrowers at a station was 76, and the smallest 25. The largest circulation was 272 and the smallest 73. The average circulation at a station was 163. The librarians reported that many of the popular books were read by from two to five persons each time they were drawn, and that in the more remote neighborhoods the books of the library furnished much of the material for the common conversation. The statistics for the winter's work are not yet available, but the reports at hand show that the average circulation at the stations increased about 50 per cent. Each sta-

tion has been supplied with children's periodicals, popular magazines, and recent reports of state agricultural societies, but statistics of the circulation of such extra literature are not kept, as the librarians are not paid, and their work is made as light as possible.

These facts have been given to show how isolated are the neighborhoods which are covered, how sparse is their population, and how small is the chance for choice in getting librarians. The great success of the libraries, and the continuing local enthusiasm in their work, suggests a positive merit in the plan upon which they were founded as applied to such conditions.

Following Mr. Stout's original plan, the books of the libraries were selected, and the details of the general scheme were worked out, by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. An officer of the commission made a careful canvass of the county before the books were bought, and studied the local conditions. He has also visited nearly all the stations, and a number of them twice, since the books were sent out, The commission has also sent the local librarians all the circulars of information which it has published, and has treated them as members of the profession. Mr. Stout has found many ways of interesting the leading people of the county in the work, but most of the details have been left in the hands of Miss Stella Lucas, the librarian at Menomonie. She has visited the stations and has met the librarians and the readers constantly in her home library, and has interested the local editors, the teachers, and all classes of citizens. She has arranged two librarians' institutes at Menomonie. These were attended by the officers of the state commission, and by the county superintendent of schools. At one institute a joint session was held with a teachers' institute. The weather on both occasions was very unfavorable, but the attendance was fair, and the meetings aroused great interest in all parts of the county. The country librarians who attended these meetings were as eager and intent to catch every helpful suggestion as any of their comrades at the state meetings. Their spirit and enthusiasm were a revelation, and inspire hope for great things in the future. The inspiration for this spirit is found largely in the local supervision. The state supervision gives the opportunity to get the best of the experience of other libraries, but no state system can give the benefits growing from local supervision and direct personal contact.

In the second system established on a similar plan, that founded by Mr. J. D. Witter in Wood county, there have been similar results. Wood county is one of the least advanced educationally in the state. It has nearly as large a population as Dunn county. Mr. Witter has sent out 27 libraries. The most remarkable result in the latter case has been the great improvement at the central library. The aggressive missionary spirit of the travelling library movement has seized upon the library trustees and the teachers. The central library has nearly doubled its circulation in the last eight months and is using a much better class of books. The officers of the commission expect soon to hold a librarian's institute in the county, and hope for much good as a result of the increasing enthusiasm.

This local supervision in Wisconsin grew from circumstances. Our plan of work for the state as a whole is not yet made. Our present problem is this — Can we cover the state and still save the great advantages flowing from this local supervision and local interest? The excuse for this paper is that the problem which confronts us will soon confront many of you.

# METHODS OF CHILDREN'S LIBRARY WORK AS DETERMINED BY THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN.—I.

BY EDWIN MILTON FAIRCHILD, OF THE EDUCATIONAL CHURCH BOARD, ALBANY, N. Y.

UNLESS the light which such institutions as Clark University are now shedding on the philosophy of education produces mirage effects in the distant scenes of the library world, it will sometime appear distinctly visible to many, not simply that a free public library is an essential part of each city's complete educational effort, but that a *public libraries system*, as complete in its activities as is the public schools system, needs to be established in each city, in order that the educational effects which effort through libraries is capable of producing may actually be secured. This complete city libraries system will include, probably, (1) the central adult library, (2) branch adult libraries, (3) children's neighborhood libraries, (4) home libraries, (5) school libraries, and (6) travelling libraries.

A librarian in a city not far from Troy, N. Y., has devised a scheme by which he avoids a personal encounter with those high in authority, and yet prevents the members of the families of the trustees from getting to the shelves and spoiling the orderly arrangement of the books. Whenever books are to be rebound, instead of having the titles of the books printed on the new backs, the binder is instructed to print upon the back of each book the name of the library and the call number of the book. The time approaches when each book will bear the title "Free Public Library of ———." This shrewd librarian keepeth the catalog carefully in his possession, and the members of the families of the trustees find themselves unable to discover the old set of Dickens with its new binding and its strange title, "Free Public Library of ———," save as they first inquire its whereabouts of the librarian, who considers it his function to see that the books are properly arranged upon the shelves, and carefully kept, each in its assigned place. Many and many a library is a suggestion of an educational institution simply because the dead pages of the books flash forth the intelligence of those who wrote them; for its librarian no more deserves to be called an educator than does the man who sells you your railroad ticket or the woman who offers you a newspaper at her stand. But these guardians of the book do not belong to the A. L. A.; their work is not professional. They are earning a living, such as it is, and society has little use for them and less need.

Those worthy of honor are the librarians who not only know books and how to arrange books convenient to the hands of the readers, but those who know how *to use books for the enrichment and enlargement of the life of their communities.* One reads with something of surprise the definition of a librarian given in the up-to-date "Century dictionary"; "The keeper or custodian of a library; one who has charge of the books and other contents of a library." When the A. L. A. adopted its present motto, "The best reading for the largest number at the least cost," a desire for library extension had taken possession, and a large circulation was the proof of efficiency. In view of this fact, the "Century dictionary" should have added to its two definitions of the librarians, (1) the copyist of mss. and (2) the keeper of a library, a third definition, viz., (3) "one who has charge of the administration of a library and the circulation of its books among the people." But unless the distant scene suffers mirage enlargement in the light of *the philosophy of education* which such institutions as Clark University are now shedding, not only will the city library become the city libraries system, but the advance movement already begun by educational librarians will result in making obsolete this suggested definition of a librarian. The science of pedagogics will soon include the questions involved in the subject of library methods. The library schools will furnish a course in library pedagogics. The term "librarian" will be applicable only to those who know *how to so administer a library as to make its books of greatest educational value.* These educational librarians bring to their librarianship the knowledge and skill that result from reading the philosophy of education, and enduring a practice discipline similar to that now given our teachers.

One who is not interested in the theories that

lie at the foundation of every organized educational effort, but demands something "practical," in ignorance of the fact that theories are the most practical things in existence, will find little of interest presented in this paper. This paper deals chiefly in theory and plan, because when the educational librarian attacks the subject of children's library work, he does not begin by asking, What can my library do for the children? His question is, From the standpoint of sociology, what do the children need? And this question he settles from his psychology. Then he asks himself the question, What are the best methods of doing for the children what they need? — and this question he settles from his library pedagogics. Finally he asks the practical question, How shall I succeed in getting my library to do this needed work? The educational librarian must discover what this human life which he seeks to enrich and enlarge really is — What laws govern its growth? What laws govern the action of one psychic unit upon another? What methods of education are wise in view of these laws of psychic action? What are the special ends to be secured by the library, when the library is placed in its appropriate position among the educational institutions, the schools, colleges, and churches? What, theoretically, are the library methods calculated to secure the desired results? Methods that are theoretically correct must be put to experimental tests.

The point of view of this paper is that the city library is to expand into the city libraries system; the term librarian is to be applicable only to those who have the spirit of the educator, and are thoroughly equipped for their work by a college training, and probably by a three years' professional training, in which is included a thorough course in library pedagogics; the methods of library work are to be scientifically determined, the ends to be gained being defined by a sociology that takes its start in psychology.

It is to those who have the spirit of the educational librarian that I wish to speak, and it is their questions as to the proper educational methods of children's library work that I wish to discuss.

This long introduction to the subject on which I am to speak with definiteness has seemed to me necessary in order that the point of view from which this paper is written may appear.

*At present, aside from the school libraries, there are six kinds of children's libraries:*

1. That represented by the New York Free Circulating Library, in which the children are served with the adults.

2. That by the Utica Public Library, in which the juvenile literature is given a special set of shelves.

3. That by the Pratt Institute Free Library, in which the children have a separate room opening out of the room for adults.

4. That by the Detroit Public Library, in which the children have a room entirely separate from the part of the building devoted to adults and have access to their room through a separate entrance.

5. That by the Neighborhood Guild Library in the University Settlement, 26 Delancey street, New York City, in which the work is exclusively for children, and considerable effort is made to furnish reading supplementary to the school work.

6. That by the Children's Neighborhood Library, of Troy, N. Y., in which the effort is directed exclusively to enriching and enlarging the life of the children through inspirational literature, the school supplementary reading being excluded for psychological reasons.

I have been able to make a personal study of the children's library work done in New York City and in Brooklyn. As a result of two years' experience came the formulation of the plans for the Children's Neighborhood Library, of Troy — a library which was the outgrowth of my desire to make a children's library ethically inspiring. The plans of that library reflect the conclusions to which I have come in many matters of detail on which it will not be possible to touch in this paper, and those who have the least desire to know my judgment in these matters are referred to the librarian of the Children's Neighborhood Library in Troy, N. Y.

But so far as *scientific determination* of the proper educational methods of conducting the library work for children is concerned, nothing could be more serious than to make the mistake of starting from a consideration of the library work already being done. The library work already being done is determined in its methods by the peculiar exigencies of the situations in which these particular libraries find themselves. The great ends to be gained must be stated by the science of sociology, and the

educational methods must be determined by reference to the psychology of childhood. We are all delighted over the great good resulting from the children's library work now being done, but our delight should not blind us to the fact that library work for children is still in its incipiency, and that the proper methods to be used by those worthy of being classed among the educational librarians must be determined by reference to the general sciences, which determine the needs of society and of the individual human being.

Thus far I have been able to speak with something of personal confidence in the truth of my words. Now that we enter upon the consideration of the ends to be gained in this children's library work, and the general and special methods, and take into consideration what this city libraries system involves, and the place assigned children's library work, a feeling of fear comes upon me. I am relieved by the certainty that you will not treat with too much seriousness the conclusions which are stated in this paper, for you will recognize, as the author does all too painfully, that these conclusions, in the present state of knowledge of child life and social life, cannot be more than search-lights, determining, perhaps, the lines upon which it is worth while to experiment.

Children's library work is simply *primary* library work. From the standpoint of sociology, the *greater ends to be gained* are three — (1) *Enriched life.* The child has its circle of acquaintances enlarged by the stories it reads of the boys and girls whom imagination has created, and out of this enlarged acquaintance comes an enrichment of its experiences and the growth of its soul. Few children can ever have the experience of running into the night, the switchman's lantern in hand, to stop the train that rushes toward the sunken bridge. The child that has that experience grows out of shallow bravery into the heroic spirit. But many and many an heroic nature swells and bursts its acorn shell, becoming thereafter full-grown to meet the emergencies of its own adult experience, by reason of having read the story of some timid girl who dared the terrors of the night to do her father's duty. A boy's life becomes strengthened as he reads of the courage and coolness of a Leather-Stocking. Few children would be without sympathy with the woods full of living creatures, birds and wolves and snakes and bears and tigers, could the charm of Mowgli's boyhood with the Jungle People once lay hold upon them.

Not only is there a personal gain from the enrichment of life but there is a *social gain.* The children have ideals of action set before them, and these ideals will govern them through life. Adult sentiments of what is fair and honorable may be the outgrowth of the feeling of what is fair in play, and the story of a baseball game may act powerfully to stimulate the growth of the social spirit, out of which may come the higher-minded business man, mother, teacher, librarian. The story of the Christ has produced many a philanthropist. The spirit of the Christ has entered to abide in many a girlish heart, because she has read the beautiful story of Mary, the mother of the Christ. The anti-social spirit of the day is our social danger. The Kansas populists dared to break the continuity of a college's effort by summarily discharging not only its president but the entire body of professors. Granting, for the sake of argument, that their political views are correct, they are not justified in crippling a college and causing the disintegration of its strength. I am proud to be a son of the man who vacated his presidential chair without vindictive speech, and begged his associated professors to be loyal to the new administration if it were possible, for the sake of the college. This unsocial spirit that delights to rip and tear is the menace of our civilization, and it takes possession of those whose life is shallow and poor. There are these grown-up people who are willing to do these unsocial things because there have been thousands and thousands of children whose *spirits have not been touched by the spirit of those who write the literature that lives.*

The second great end of children's library work is (2) *The enlargement of knowledge* of human and nature life. The girl may grow up in close association with her mother's woman-heart. Her father is tempered and softened by his experiences of the sorrows and weaknesses of humanity. The young men are seen at a distance, or under the glare of the lights of the drawing-room, or aglow with the passion of love in its nascent strength. The girl's woman-heart is won by the psychic insistence of the man. The girl in her teens, what does she know personally of this masculinity? Just

the half truth, which is worse than the lie. One who knows can write a realistic novel of the right sort that will reveal to her a man in his secret heart of hearts.

And the one who does not understand the times in which he lives continually runs amuck of the social currents which flow according to the will of that "Greatness which includes us as the ocean holds each drop."* The children of the rich play with the children of the rich, study in the private school with the children of the rich, marry the children of the rich, entertain the children of the rich, ride in their carriages and not in the public carrier. What do they know of the life of the poor? And without knowledge it is impossible to sympathize with the children of the poor. Sometimes, when the glare has faded from the ball-room, or it becomes the fashion to do charity work, the men and women of the palace enter the garrets of the people of the street. It is the people of the palace whose knowledge of human life is scant, and their efforts in reform are as useless as the child's attempt to build a dyke to keep the sea from its play-house on the beach. The realistic novel may reveal to them the meaning of experiences not within their sphere.

Let the children's library furnish the children with a knowledge of the experiences of the child life of society; the youth's library, the young men and young women with a knowledge of the experiences of young manhood and womanhood; then let the adult library furnish the full-grown men and women accurate information of the social conditions prevailing in the different social groups into which society is now divided, and under these conditions the multitudes may become socialized and democracy be a success. This work the schools cannot do. Literature alone can, and the children's library has assigned to it a great and important social service.†

* From "The song of the soul."

† The July number of the *American Journal of Sociology* contains an article, written probably about the same time as the above, in which Dr. E. A. Ross, of Leland Stanford Jr. University, says: "Not slavery alone but the narrow sympathies of a provincial literature caused the South to drift away. East and West became alienated through clash of interests, but the story-writers and playwrights come in and help the people to understand each other"—"An imperial democracy like ours is an experiment, and succeeds only because the press and a national literature inspire broad sympathies."

The third great end to be accomplished by children's library work is of a different nature, but so important as to deserve equal place with the (1) enrichment of life and the (2) enlargement of knowledge. The children's library must (3) *establish the reading habit.* The child must grow up to feel that the library is the continual source of the renewal of its life and of its perpetually enlarging joy. Physiological psychology determines that the governing habits of the human being are established by the age of 30. The reading habit must be established in childhood and strengthened as the child becomes adult.

*As to the general methods of gaining these greater ends.*

Enriched life, the first great end, can be secured by associating the children with the children of the books. The undeveloped sentiments of the child are strengthened by sympathizing with the children of whom it reads. *Idealistic fiction is therefore the chief means by which the librarian educates the soul of the child.* I am using the term soul in the psychological sense,* not in the theological. Many of the stories of the *St. Nicholas*, *Youth's Companion*, and *Harper's Round Table* are to be rated of high educational value. Biographical stories differ from fictitious in no essential particular. A little more weight attaches in the child's mind to a true story, provided the true story treats the characters in the live way characteristic of the fictitious story. Most biographies of the boyhoods of men who have become distinguished are lacking the impressive movement and spirit of high-class fiction. The story is in the third person. And for inspiration these biographies are of secondary value.

*Enlargement of knowledge of human life is secured chiefly through the* (1) *realistic novels, and* (2) *descriptive fiction.* "The bonnie briar-bush" acquaints one with a whole community. Idealistic fiction brings enrichment of life, the realistic novel brings enlargement of knowledge of human life. When history is well written *there is little difference between the history and the realistic novel.* The crises of society, when accurately and skilfully set forth, are seen to be the times when the human soul reveals its full self. History is the description of the social soul in times past, and the realistic

* See "Psychic factors of civilization," by Lester F. Ward.

novel is the history of the social soul in its present life struggle. Through the realistic novel the children of China can be known by the child brought up in the workingman's home in Philadelphia.

These idealistic and realistic stories of life reveal to the children the *meaning of their own experiences.* And these stories, if true to life, store the child's mind with knowledge of the *ways and means* of getting its ambitions accomplished. Stories of adventure give the successful ways of escaping from dangerous situations. The contrivances by which two courageous boys lost on the mountain-side managed to spend the night comfortably and to protect themselves from the wolves and snakes are part of the necessary information of each well-equipped boy and girl.

*Enlarged knowledge of the life of nature is secured through books of natural history*, and these, if they would be most effective, must be descriptive fiction, because fiction allows things to be shown in action and in actual relations to human beings. A story of how Harry used a sumac reed for his pop-gun, and soon suffered from its poison, may introduce an account of Harry's instructive ramble through the woods with a botanist.

And if this fiction descriptive of nature could generate the child's love for the fairy spirits of the violets and the Jack-in-the-pulpits, would it not be often true that the adult soul would find the meaning of the mountains, and of the deep blue heaven with its teeming life of myriad suns and worlds, so that it might sing to itself when weary and heavy laden:

> "A mighty Presence fills the air
> And meanings through all being thrill;
> Infinite Love, my mother,
> Takes me to Her bosom,
> Holds me calm and still.
>
> "Lying thus space-cradled, yes, I know
> That Love in heaven wide and deep,
> Gently as a mother
> O'er her wee, sweet baby,
> Lulls my soul to sleep."

—From "*The evensong of those that are weary and heavy laden.*"

The fear of death might pass, and a courage to live be born of which few have knowledge.

But the accomplishment of these two greater ends depends upon the success gained in *rousing the child's enthusiasm for the library*, and establishing the reading habit. Our actions are the result of our necessities and our desires. Unless the children grow into a permanent desire for the satisfactions to be gained from books, most of them will never experience the enrichment and enlargement of life which literature furnishes. One might watch in some children's room and find a line of 30 children waiting to be served, and conclude that enthusiasm for the library was already a reality in the child life of this library's community. But the children take up the library as a fad, read for a few months, and then forget the library. The long line of children waiting for books simply means that for each library there are thousands of children. A large portion of those who draw do not continue reading more than nine months. At present in the case of 75 per cent. of the children of the community we are failing to establish the reading habit. This enthusiasm for the library, which must be secured, else the children's library work is a failure from the standpoint of education, will grow of itself, *provided the needs and desires of the children are accurately known and thoroughly respected.* Childhood's sentiments must be respected, and the children's library work conformed to childhood's natural enthusiasms.

*We now take up the consideration of more definite questions.*

The methods of children's library work which I am setting forth are so intimately related to this conception of a *city libraries system* that it will be necessary to state a few details of this system.

I wish to call your attention to what is involved in the effort to enrich and enlarge the *entire life* of a community, and to present a plan for the articulation of the different kinds of libraries into a city libraries system. According to statistics gathered two years ago, only 20 per cent. of the people of a community enter the public library during the year. In order that the library shall exert educational force upon the entire life of a community, there must be (1) *free books*, (2) *libraries conducted on educational principles*, and (3) *enough first-class librarians to influence the people.* The following plan is devised to include these requisites.

The administration of the entire city libraries system is in the hands of the chief librarian, who has his office in the central adult library. This *central adult library* contains fifty or more thousand titles, is devoted exclusively to adults,

and in most respects resembles the established type of city library.

A city is divisible into sub-communities. In this city libraries system a *branch adult library* is placed in each one of these group-centres. Troy, N. Y., would need two branch adult libraries, one in North Troy and one in South Troy. If Lansingburg, Green Island, and Watervliet were consolidated with Troy into the "Greater Troy," five and possibly six branch adult libraries would be needed. In these branch adult libraries are placed the 2000 best titles for averagely intelligent adults. Some variations would be made to suit the character of the different localities. Of course the branch adult libraries could draw from the central adult library any book desired.

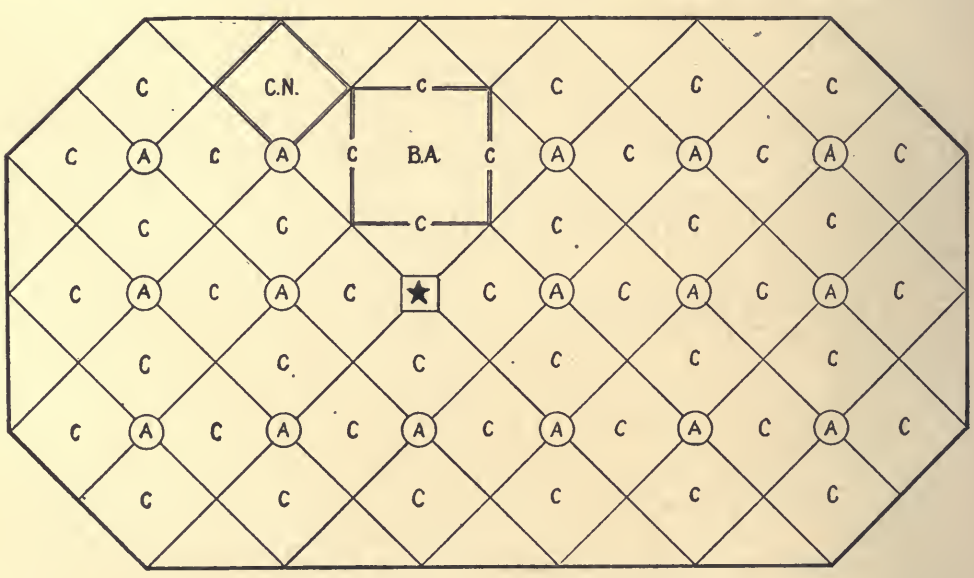
Located between these branch adult libraries are the *children's neighborhood libraries*, devoted exclusively to the children in their neighborhoods, and containing each the best 2000 titles for children, with variation to suit the locality. These children's neighborhood libraries are not burdened with the school supplementary reading, which is supplied through school libraries. In the Greater Troy at least ten of these children's neighborhood libraries would be needed.

The children's neighborhood libraries are centres for circles of *home libraries*. Each part of each neighborhood is won into appreciation of the library by the missionary activity of these home libraries.

Each public-school building has a *school library*, containing the necessary books of reference and other books for supplementary reading known to be in constant demand.

The central library is the centre of *travelling library* activities. The numerous clubs, fire departments, police stations, hotels, etc., in the city are encouraged to keep going a continual series of travelling libraries. The special needs of the schools — those needs not supplied by the school library — are met by means of *school travelling libraries*. The visitors who carry the enthusiasm for the library into every nook and corner of the city get their library sets from the central library.

I have not suggested any new kinds of libraries. I have simply taken the various kinds of libraries already existing and articulated them




PLAN ILLUSTRATING CITY LIBRARIES SYSTEM.

* Central adult library.
A. Branch adult libraries.
C. Children's neighborhood libraries.
B.A. Territory covered by a branch adult library.
C.N. " " " children's neighborhood library.

into a system, so that they may work together to supply the need of an entire community.

The library work done for children under this proposed city libraries system includes five kinds of effort: 1. Children's neighborhood libraries. 2. Home libraries. 3. Club travelling libraries. 4. School libraries. 5. School travelling libraries. There is no question as to the success of each of these different kinds of children's library efforts, and this combination of various successful efforts into one naturally articulated system ought to be decidedly effective.

There is not time to elaborate the work assigned each of the five kinds of children's library efforts. The remainder of the paper has to do with the considerations involved in the *children's neighborhood library*. This kind of library is demanded by the needs of the children, and is the *main channel* for library education of the children. My thesis is stated as follows: In order that the librarian may have the chance to be a personal inspiration to the children, and that each child may find the books that appeal to it, in order that the library as an institution may win the continued devotion out of which will grow the reading habit, it is necessary that there be a *children's library that is a distinct and unique institution, disassociated from the adult library and from the school supplementary reading* — a place where the children are led by the librarian into a grand revel in books.

The schools have a distinct task, viz., to strengthen the intelligence of the children. It is a sad mistake to expect the schools to take up library work save as this assists them in their special task. The library work appropriate to the schools is distinct from that appropriate to the children's neighborhood library. I do not underestimate the library work appropriate to the schools; I do not slight it in this paper; I simply omit the elaboration of school library methods out of consideration for my audience.

I make the following argument for the separation of the children's neighborhood library from the adult library: It is a fact with a reasonable explanation that the child does not like to be continually under the parents' guidance. The boy likes to try being his own master. When he and his Indian troopers are in the woods, or exploring the mysteries of some new alley, what cares he for the things of his elders? The boy wants to find his secret world where, in the language of the poet, "There aren't no ten commandments, and a man can raise a thirst." It is not wrong but right and necessary that the children should feel thus, and be anxious to have their own possessions. The infant is dependent on its parents, the adult is independent, and the *struggle of childhood and youth is*, not to wrest its independence from its parents, but *to accomplish growth into the strength which makes it comfortable to stand alone*. It is by wisely satisfying this desire for independence that children are enabled to become, when full-grown, worthy of their independence. It is a sad *pedagogical* mistake for the children's library not to utilize this childhood's natural enthusiasm for independent organizations devoted exclusively to the children. And the best results will be secured by making use of this enthusiasm to the full. I have carefully considered all the arguments for associating the children with the adults, and these weigh very light against this argument for separate children's libraries.

From this point this paper deals with the question of methods without considering the inconveniences involved in a close association between the adult's and children's libraries. The building, the methods, the librarian, the books and magazines are all for the children, and the children feel the sense of possession. And this is for the sake of establishing in the hearts of the children of the community a continued library enthusiasm out of which may grow the reading habit.

Continued enthusiasm depends also for its establishment upon the *disassociation of the children's library from the school supplementary reading*. The reading habit cannot be created in the ordinary child by forcing it to go to the library for its school supplementary reading. The trouble is that the school work has to be hard drill. Intellectual fibre toughens under long-continued, thorough discipline. The children submit to this because they appreciate somewhat its necessity. I do not mean to say that school work is not at all pleasurable, but I do mean to say that as long as the world lasts the hour when school is out will be more welcome than that at which school is called. There is no good reason why the city libraries system should not furnish supplementary reading directly to the school through the school library. The children's neighborhood library should not be obliged to carry in its race for the child's

love this *weight of the child's distaste* for assigned, forced reading.

Continued enthusiasm and the establishment of the reading habit depend also on the establishment among the children of *a sentiment that it is the thing to be well read in the literature of childhood.* The boy who does not know the "Jungle book" should be despised by his peers. Judicious talking on the part of the librarian, continued for ten years, will establish this sentiment among the children of a community, and when once established it will prove a strong educational motive.

*The chief source of enthusiasm for the children's library is the librarian.* I have chosen to discuss the function of the librarian in this connection rather than under a separate head in order that it may appear that her personality and ability as an educator are vitally related to the library's success in maintaining enthusiasm and establishing the reading habit. The librarian needs to be not a careful clerk that tends the loan-desk, collects fines, and preserves order, but a woman grown, herself the realization of the educational ideal, which by the way is not the smart, but the intelligent, great-souled woman. The woman, whether married or unmarried, who, because of her singular character, deserves the title "old-maid," is unfit for the position of the children's librarian. The woman who takes the children of the community to her heart as a mother her own, is best fitted by nature for this position. Not only must the children's librarian be well fitted by natural personal qualities for her position, but intellectually she must be thoroughly and specially trained for children's library work.

The *government* of the children's library should be that of the home. The policeman and janitor are not wanted, and the librarian that needs them lacks the required tact and force and human sympathy. If worse comes to the worst, let one of the big boys of the library thrash the scamp who makes trouble and insults the librarian.

The *source of control* should be the loyalty and love of the children for the library and the librarian. The etiquette of the library may be elevated by judicious talks on library ethics. Children are quick to see what is to the advantage of the group-life, and to punish one who offends against the interests of all. These matters are easily taken care of if the librarian be of good courage, ambitious for herself and her library children, possessed of real enthusiasm to live. In the ideal children's library there will be strong friendships between the librarian and the children, and on the part of the children a sort of heroine worship.

*The books of the children's library are simply the librarian's tools.* Quality, not quantity, is the chief consideration. Two thousand selected titles is a sufficient kit. If games are included in the outfit, those selected should contribute to the library's success in establishing the reading habit. The library books and games are to the librarian what the text-book is to the teacher. From the standpoint of education the children's librarian is an *instructor at large.* In library phrase she is, in her more important function, a *reference librarian.* She does not belong at the loan-desk. Her time belongs to the children who wish to select the books that fit their needs.

The educational value of the children's library and its success in maintaining enthusiasm and establishing the reading habit depend upon the children being furnished the *literature that fits them.* I found a girl of thirteen rushing through "The ships that pass in the night." Of course she did not like it, and a few such experiences would produce serious results. She followed this by "The scarlet letter." What did she know of the adult passions and their social values, and of the justice and injustice of severe punishment for transgression against established custom? And at thirteen what revelation could such a book as this make to her? Nothing but a distorted and unreal and fascinating glimpse of a realm in which the tragic thrill which her girlish nature craves is gotten by social transgression. She drew both books from a library that prides itself on its children's work. "The scarlet letter" could not explain to her her own experience. Some story dealing with the real and sacred loves of girls and boys would solve for her the meaning of her own mysterious feelings. It will take all the insight of the intelligent mother-spirit, this insight deepened by the thorough discipline of the library school, to select for the children from the books upon the shelves those that suit their needs.

The children's librarian can never serve the children properly unless she can *go with the children to the books upon the shelves.* You can

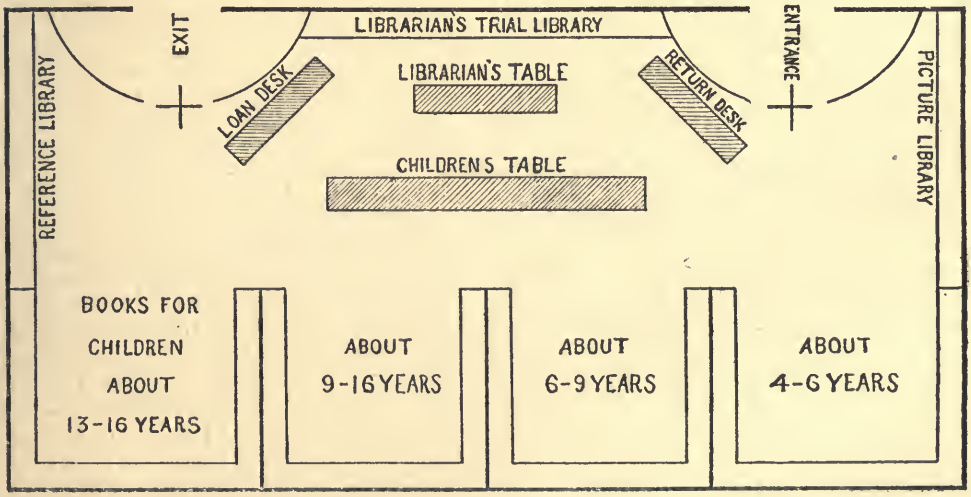
sell railroad tickets, but you cannot educate the children through a hole in a grating. The children cannot know exactly what they need, and the librarian must try on various sorts of books and have a chance to study temperaments before she can fit closely. The task of fitting the children with books is so difficult that it cannot be accomplished save by adopting the policy of helping the children to fit themselves. The books of the children's library may be separated into four or five grades, but, under any arrangement, the children must be allowed to get to the shelves.

The children's library needs to have a *literary atmosphere.* "Have you read Eugene Field's poems?" is the kind of question the children should ask each other. The librarian, of course, will be the centre from which this sparkling interest in definite poems, stories, incidents, characters, and natural phenomena arises. She may well prepare herself carefully for each day's literary chat with the children.

But more thorough enlightenment should be given the children if their interest in books is to become vital. The need demands that there be *children's library clubs*, into which the new readers are enlisted and to which the librarian and her friends give short illuminating talks on the important books. I can imagine the fun and power of a talk on Robinson Crusoe to such a children's library club.

It is by disassociation from the adult library and the school supplementary reading, and by thorough work on the part of the librarian, that the children's neighborhood library can succeed in establishing itself in the children's love, and becoming of greatest educational value. The primary teacher is to-day assigned a place as important as that of the high-school principal. The children's librarian should rank with the chief of the adult library, and the children's library itself should rank with the library for grown-up people.

The churches are not alone in their efforts to save the people. The churches too often seek to restrict life, rather than to enrich and enlarge. The library cannot do otherwise than enrich and enlarge. And perhaps there is a hell from which the library saves people as trying as that from which the orthodox church restrains. So many people are uninterested. No enthusiasms inspire them. Only those activities that may result in a little larger business or shorter hours and more pay are to them the activities in which it seems worth while to indulge themselves. There are always the dead to bury their dead. Fifty years of library work in each large city of the United States, after the thorough manner outlined in this city libraries system, would do wonders to save the multitude from their commonplace tiresome lives. There seems to be life enough in the A. L. A. to bring these thing to pass.




LOAN-ROOM OF THE CHILDREN'S NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY.

# METHODS OF CHILDREN'S LIBRARY WORK AS DETERMINED BY THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN.—II.

BY EMMA LOUISE ADAMS, LIBRARIAN OF THE PLAINFIELD (N. J.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IT is a truism, the significance of which we realize more and more fully as we strive to make ourselves really useful to an individual, or group of individuals, that to render any real service we must know both their needs and their environments, so that our efforts in their behalf may be guided by a sympathy which is both intelligent and zealous.

The needs of children are almost as various as the children themselves, and we can learn these individual needs only by coming into direct contact with the children, and in enlisting the aid of teacher and parent whose opportunities of knowing the children individually are so much greater than ours. A knowledge of child-nature will, however, be of the greatest assistance in enabling us to better understand and appreciate these individual needs, and this we can partially gain by a little attention to what teachers are doing in the line of child-study. After their minutely recorded observations—physical, mental, and moral—shall have proceeded sufficiently far to warrant generalization, the teacher will have become even more powerful an ally to the librarian than at present. We shall gain a more appreciative and intelligent sympathy with childhood which will enable us to turn back the pages of our own lives, and stand once more upon the threshold of conscious life, surrounded by its mystery and its beauty. Among all who come to our libraries there is none more interesting than this little being with the infinite possibilities before him, none we can help more, for none are so willing to be helped.

While we can learn special needs only through knowledge of individuals, there is one general need which is common to all children, whether they are city or country bred, rich or poor, of foreign or American parentage, and that is the need of *personal aid.* This is the key to the whole situation, and the degree to which we can supply it will be the measure of our success in helping the child. It is the test by which every experiment in work with children may be tried. To the librarian of the small town this hardly comes as a problem ; she can know all her small borrowers and their individual needs. Gradually as the town grows, and the work of the library in proportion, she regretfully realizes that this work must of necessity pass into other hands. Then the more difficult task becomes hers of transmitting her own love and enthusiasm for this work to assistants, and where it is lacking in teachers, to them also, and so furnishing by proxy the personal contact which it is no longer possible for her to supply. Co-operation with schools, then, is the result of the librarian's effort to supply to large numbers that personal contact which it is no longer practicable for the library to give.

The librarian's most natural and effective helpers are the teachers, and without their aid the rapid advance made in recent years in work with children would have been impossible. How cordially the librarian's advances have been met by the teacher is shown by the outward sign of the new library section of the National Educational Association. It is true that there are still discouragements, that not all teachers are willing, nor all able to effectively co-operate with librarians, nor are all librarians able to co-operate with teachers, but, of course, we think this a rare instance.

Perhaps the influence of the new section will be sufficient to place in every normal school a person qualified to give instruction in methods of using books in the class-room, in the use of bibliographic tools, with if possible a little elementary instruction in library work, and who will be able to impart a keener love and appreciation of good literature and a special knowledge of the best juvenile books. This is already done in Wisconsin, whence comes so much that is good in library methods, and New Jersey's normal school has a librarian who does a similar work, although not on so large a scale. The advantages which would result if such a plan were more extensively followed are obvious.

The methods of enlisting the child's interest,

and effecting a co-operation with schools, and the degree to which they are used, depend largely upon the needs of localities, and the importance with which work with children is regarded by librarians in charge.

Among the most effective are, the abandonment of an age restriction — the outcome of the general belief that this work cannot be begun too early — the limitation of the number of books that may be borrowed within a given time, lest the children read too much, and the institution of the "children's room." These rooms are ordinarily used only as reading-rooms, but there is a growing tendency to make them serve also as delivery-rooms, thus bringing together all work with children, and insuring personal oversight to a greater extent. Very attractive places are these, with their pictures and plants, and low wall cases, in which are kept the best of all kinds of children's books, and to all of these the little visitors have free access. Miniature tables and chairs graduated to the size of the small readers give one the impression on entering that he is decidedly out of proportion and uncomfortably large. Buffalo's well-known room provides even for the tiniest with games, scrap-books, dissected maps, etc. In the new library at Providence, the idea will be very fully carried out, and quite the happiest children will be those for whom Mr. Foster has so thoughtfully planned. No better argument is needed to convince one that this movement is in the right direction than a glance at the statistics showing the use of these rooms, and a glance, too, at the happy faces of those who frequent them. The success of such a room necessarily depends upon the assistant to whom this important work is entrusted, who needs both special fitness and special training for it.

It is the universal practice to indicate by some sign in the catalogs or finding lists books that are adapted to young people. Some libraries go further than this, and issue special lists of such books; some few annotate these, and if this can be done thoroughly it will add greatly to their value, but if not, such lists are worse than useless, and it is far better to content oneself with the occasional issue of short lists of best books for boys and girls.

In work with schools it is all but universal to issue special cards to teachers of the public schools, on which from six to 50 books may be drawn at a time. Some give this privilege to private and parochial as well as to public school teachers. Where a library is located at a considerable distance from the schools, that modification of the travelling library idea, known as the "special library system," can be used with excellent results. This puts it in the power of teacher or librarian to determine largely what the pupils shall read, and it is wonderfully interesting and suggestive to see how much used are these carefully selected and frequently changed books. This is work which is not yet done to as nearly large an extent as it probably will be in the future, as it does not necessarily call for the large duplication of books, which other forms of work with schools require, and is therefore practicable for the medium-sized as well as for the larger libraries. Only the very large libraries can send a sufficient number of copies to enable an entire class to read the same book at the same time, although even this is not now so expensive a system, since many of the books desired for class reading are issued at a moderate price, in good type and paper, and durable binding, by several of the leading publishers. It may be said in passing, that it is unfortunate that a more attractive exterior is not given to some of these, as children are so prone to think the exterior of a book a sufficient criterion by which to judge of its contents.

In several towns it is the custom for whole classes to visit the library, and in company with teacher or librarian examine books which treat of the subject being studied by them. This is done to so large an extent in some places as to demand a special room or rooms for the purpose. The Worcester library we know has a class-room for each subject, and at the new library at Providence, by an admirable arrangement, the class-room is to be directly adjoining the children's room.

It is the custom of some librarians to visit schools occasionally and talk to the pupils about their reading, or invite letters from them, in which the pupils give some account of books they have read; these letters are returned with helpful suggestions, and so a friendly relation is established between pupil and librarian. A very good way to become acquainted with teachers and to get at their point of view is to attend teachers' meetings and explain the privileges which the library extends to them, and suggest

methods of using books in the class-room. If teachers and librarians could more often meet together for discussion of methods, doubtless we should be better able to devise methods more in accordance with the needs of the child.

Occasional lists on subjects in the school course, reference lists on holidays, etc., are of great value, but no printed list, however correctly made, can take the place of personal relationship.

The school may be used also as a medium through which to circulate pictures as well as books — picture scrap-books for the very little ones, pictures of places, events, etc., as illustrative of geography, history, and other studies, photographic reproductions of famous pictures, pieces of sculpture or notable buildings for art classes. Grown people and children alike love pictures, and this would seem an excellent way of reaching those whom it is difficult to reach by means of books.

One problem which confronts the schools of the larger towns and cities is, how to inspire its pupils with a true patriotism which does not exhaust all its energy in boasting of its country on every occasion, but does all in its power to serve that country, not only by a scorn of all bribery and political corruption, but by a willingness to do its part to make such bribery and corruption impossible. If political life is anything like as corrupt as we are told by those who ought to know, this is one of the most important responsibilities which educators have to face. And here the thoughtful teacher will find in the library his greatest help, in the examples in all ages, of men, and women, too, who have done noble deeds and made great sacrifices for their country. Not only history and biography, but the literature of poetry and romance may be made to do service in bringing before the future citizen stimulating examples which will arouse his enthusiasm and desire of emulation. For it is a fallacy to suppose that the education of the mind alone can ever supply high motives, or lofty purpose, or strength of will. It is the "literature of power" which the teacher must call in to his aid, and here the librarian can be of the greatest assistance to the teacher, both by the ample provision of such literature and by its timely suggestion.

A close co-operation with the schools having been established, the librarian will find as one result that his reference work will be greatly increased, and the range of questions which he will be asked by these young searchers will be almost limitless, and to supply the answers to these his ingenuity and knowledge of books will be often taxed to the utmost. The special qualifications needed for this work are those of the reference librarian and the teacher. The librarian will not then be satisfied with opening a book at the exact page containing the desired information, but will strive, wherever possible, to tactfully impart some knowledge of the book containing it.

These are some of the ways that librarians and teachers are co-operating, and in them all we find the librarian striving to supply, through the medium of others, the human touch, the personal element, which we believe to be the greatest need of the child.

The choice of books hardly belongs to my subject, yet in passing I may speak of the importance of this, for in selecting books for children their needs must be carefully studied, as upon the success with which the selection is adapted to these needs will depend the future usefulness and popularity of the juvenile department. The various published guides can only supplement, they can never take the place of a knowledge of children's books acquired by one's own reading, and this is absolutely necessary if we are to make the books of their greatest service after they are on the shelves. If the work of testing and "evaluating" children's books can be systematized, and the results made of general benefit, we shall be able to choose our juvenile books more wisely, and to recommend them more intelligently.

Provision must be made for all classes and sizes of children, for those of the most ignorant, and for the very young. The needs of these last are but scantily met; unfortunately, most books suited to these mites are considered unworthy of a place on our shelves. Often, however, these are the children we want most to reach, and as they leave school very early the time for this is all too short. If despised little Dotty Dimple can teach them the enjoyment that may be gotten from books, by all means let them follow her to her grandmother's, or out West, or remain at home with her, as they choose.

While all departments of literature must find a place in our juvenile collection, we must not fall into the error of thinking that children are to be educated every moment. We certainly

shouldn't want that sort of treatment ourselves, and we are not adding to our experience at anything like the rate at which they are adding to theirs. Wholesome stories should be provided, and by all means an abundance of the tales of mythology and fairy-lore, which every child loves. In Sully's charming "Studies of childhood" he speaks of the child instinct which personifies inanimate objects. Early in the history of the race we know that man did this same thing, so that when the child hears these beautiful old tales they are not to him merely beautiful stories, as to us, but something which comes within the range of his own beliefs and imagination, and we know that his imaginings are often more real to him than actual happenings. So in providing him with fairy-lore, we shall be giving him not only the intense pleasure of losing himself in the fairy-world, but a future pleasure in the recollection of the vividness of his childish belief.

Without exaggerating unduly the importance of work with the young, it is evident that it is not the least important of our functions, and there are indications that as in the future this becomes more widely recognized, provision more adequate to the magnitude of the task may be made. It might be practicable for the members of the staff peculiarly fitted for this work to be set aside under a competent head into whose charge the entire responsibility of work with children might be committed. The duties of this chief might include the selection and care of all juvenile books, and the securing the co-operation of teachers and others having charge of children. The employment of such a person imbued with a sense of the ends to be attained, with tact, a love for and sympathy with children, a broad knowledge and love of good literature, as well as a special knowledge of juvenile literature, and having the executive ability to plan and carry on the work, would go far toward solving the problem of the greater libraries of how to provide that which all admit to be of the utmost importance — personal contact.

While schools are naturally the most effective way of providing the personal element, there are various other agencies through which the library can act. The home library is peculiarly fitted for it, missions, reading-rooms, boys' and girls' clubs, juvenile branches of Young Men's Christian Associations, children's hospitals, industrial schools, Sunday-schools, as in St. Louis, and lastly there is the much-abused parent. In Mr. Dana's Cleveland address he brought a severe charge against this very large and very remiss part of the community, when he said that "the American parent is indifferent to the character of the education of his children." Quite the worst thing about this statement is that it is perfectly true, if we may judge by the lack of interest the average parent shows in the reading of his children, for the lament does not come from east or west, north or south, but arises very impartially from all parts of the country. It is understood that this charge is made against those only who have both opportunity and ability to guide the reading of their children. Surely if such parents would realize the power for good, or for evil, which books have in the formation of character, would not many, who now find "no time" to notice what their children read, find that there are other things which can be more safely passed by than this? There can be no one who has the opportunity or the authority of the parent for controlling the child's reading, nor is there any one who can make this tactful oversight and reading together of books more delightful to the child, either in the present or in the future, by its grateful and happy recollection.

At the Lake Placid conference at the close of Miss Stearn's paper on "Reading for the young" she asked, "How can we induce parents to oversee their children's reading?" But this question has as yet been unanswered, either because of its being a difficult and delicate one, or because of the multitude of other questions which claim the librarian's attention. It is to be hoped that in the not far distant future its turn may come for discussion.

Are methods of work with children as we have found them proportioned to the child's needs? In reviewing the many phases of this work we have seen in them all the librarian striving to surround the child with personal influence, and if our theory be true, that this is the chief need of the child, then our efforts are at least in the right direction. And when the principle is more fully recognized, to quote from a well-known worker with schools and children, "that it is of prime importance to study the needs and capabilities of the individual child, rather than the child in the mass," the work will doubtless be conducted on a larger scale, and one more adequate to its importance.

## THE FISK FREE AND PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEW ORLEANS.

BY WILLIAM BEER, LIBRARIAN.

THE Fisk Free and Public Library of New Orleans, which exists by virtue of an ordinance of the city, dated April 15, 1896, was formed from two collections of books which had been the property of the city since 1845 and 1847 respectively. The earlier in point of date has been known by a great many names. It had its origin as the Public School Library of Municipality No. 2, which received the official recognition of the city by ordinance of December 3, 1844. Private donations and collections from the scholars were the sources from which additions to the library were made. It made such progress that in 1848 the library had increased from 3400 to 7516 volumes. In 1849 the collection was transferred to the spacious room on the first floor of the city hall, which it occupied until its removal in 1897. Up to 1853 there had been 504 life members and 23 annual subscribers. In 1859 were consolidated with this library those of the 1st, 3d, and 4th school districts; the title was changed to that of the Lyceum and Library Society; the feature of occasional lectures justified the addition to the name. At this time there were necessary a librarian and assistant librarian; the latter was dropped from 1873. In 1897 the collection consisted of about 16,000 volumes.

The Fisk Library was the gift of two brothers, Abijah and Alvarez Fisk. The former, by will dated 1843, gave the city of New Orleans his house on the corner of Customhouse and Bourbon streets, to be applied to the keeping of a library for the use and benefit of the citizens of said city. Mr. Alvarez Fisk, in 1847, purchased from Mr. B. F. French, the author of the "Historical collection of Louisiana," an extensive private library, which he presented to the city, in order that use might be made of his brother's legacy. The library in question comprised 6000 volumes, relating principally to history, commerce, and biography. On the petition of the members of the Mechanics' Society the Fisk Library, which up to 1853 had remained in the building donated by Mr. Fisk, was transferred to the building of the Mechanics' Institute, to be held and used by said society for the same uses and trusts under which the building and library were held by the city of New Orleans. Little progress was made by the library during its possession by the Mechanics' Society, which was dissolved in the year 1882. The library was then placed in the custody of the University of Louisiana. When that university, with its franchise, was ceded by the state to the Tulane University, the library entered upon an era of prosperity and usefulness. The magnificent donation of Paul Tulane brought into action educational forces which attracted a large number of the intellectual youth of the state, to whom the Fisk Library for many years supplied the need of a university library. Owing to the kindness of Prof. Ordway, the students were allowed the use of his magnificent scientific library, consequently the growth of the Fisk Library in this later period was in the direction of English history and literature. Between the years 1884 and 1895 there was expended from the Fisk Library the sum of $8500 for books, periodicals, and magazines.

The first official action to the end of establishing the present Fisk Free and Public Library was the message of the mayor of New Orleans of January 9, 1896, recommending that the building formerly occupied by the Criminal District Court be devoted to the use of a public library. This was adopted by the council on January 29 of the same year. On April 15, 1896, an ordinance establishing a public library was adopted. Among other clauses it stated that the management of said Fisk Free and Public Library shall be in the charge of a board of directors, who shall be appointed by the mayor, and be styled the board of directors of the Fisk Free and Public Library of the city of New Orleans. The said board shall be composed of seven directors, together with the mayor of the city of New Orleans, who shall be *ex-officio* chairman of the said board of directors. That the mayors of the city of New Orleans upon the expiration of their office shall not vacate the office of director of said Fisk Free

and Public Library, but shall continue life directors of same, and in this manner and in no other shall said board of directors be increased. The said board of directors shall have authority to fill vacancies arising in said board, from death, resignation, or otherwise, and shall adopt all rules for the government of said library, subject, however, to the approval of the mayor. On the 21st of April, 1896, the mayor named a board of directors, in which the financial and commercial interests of the city were well represented. Mr. Frank T. Howard, to whose care the city of New Orleans had already been indebted for the development of the Howard Memorial Library, was chosen president, and Mr. Ernest Kruttschnitt, president of the school board, was elected vice-president. From this board were named executive and library committees, who work with great zeal.

The building in which, by a happy accident, the Public Library has found a home, is singularly well situated. It is about five blocks from Canal street, the principal business street of the city, and the dividing line between the French and American quarters. The extension of the city southward makes this a very central position. In the near future branch libraries will accommodate the demand of the inhabitants of the outskirts. The building may be said to consist of three stories, of which that on the ground floor is divided into large rooms. The rental from these will, unless they are occupied for library purposes, be a source of considerable revenue. The two upper stories have been thrown into one. The ascent of two flights of broad stairs brings the visitor to the entrance, which faces a broad gallery rising in the centre of the hall. The library-room is 185 x 85, and over 40 feet high. On the north side are two tiers of large windows. On the other three sides the windows are all on the upper story, the result is light and air, a provision unequalled in any library. Fourteen feet from the floor there runs around three sides of the room a gallery 20 feet broad, giving an opportunity for the erection of numerous small special reading-rooms. The delivery-desk is about 20 feet from the entrance.

The eastern half of the library is devoted to the storage of books; the double book shelves stand five rows of 10 each, three feet six inches apart, and divided by alleys of two feet six inches; the unit of shelving is a double bookcase 10 feet long and seven feet high, divided into three spaces, and having seven or eight shelves, according to the dimensions of the books. The shelves are grooved and slide on the iron supports suggested by Mr. Baker, of Columbia University. Good ventilation is secured by having the ends constructed of two pieces, 11½ inches wide; this shelving, of cypress, oil finished, cost $20.70 per unit. The arrangement of books has been to suit as much as possible the location of the delivery-desk. The row of 10 stacks near the desk is devoted to fiction, having American fiction on the front shelf; the second row begins with American history, and runs back to German literature; the next row of stack contains literature to philosophy. The front stack of the fourth row is used for storing the accumulating current periodicals; behind this are the bound periodicals in alphabetical order; the fifth row contains the public documents, *Congressional Record*, and publications of the bureaus. The lighting of the shelving occupied by fiction is by means of one 16-candle light, with a good glass circular reflector. The 40 other stacks of shelving are provided with portable hanging lights, protected by wire and furnished with reflectors; these are attached to conductors 10 feet long, which roll up on differential pulleys. Facing the delivery-desk are long narrow tables, on which are placed catalogs and call-slips.

The western half of the room is devoted to the reference-desk, periodicals, and newspapers. The reference-desk, 15 feet long, contains on each side three rows of books, including the valuable dictionaries and encyclopædias, also reports of the last census and the latest bound volumes of the *Congresssonal Record*. There are 14 tables, 6 x 3 feet, each supplied with two electric lights with green shades, 16 inches from the tables, so that the light does not fall outside the edge of the tables. The newspapers are arranged on 10 racks, six feet high and 10 feet long, with double, sloping, sides. On each there are six papers and four lights. The periodicals stand in upright racks placed against the wall of the western end of the room. They are mostly in covers, on which have been pasted one of the original covers of the magazines published. Comfortable chairs provided at the tables, and stools at the newspaper racks accommodate about 200 readers.

The present composition of the library is approximately as follows:

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|---|---|
| Bound periodicals, dictionaries, and encyclopædias | 3250 |
| Philosophy | 800 |
| Theology | 1500 |
| Sociology and public documents | 9500 |
| Philology | 100 |
| Natural sciences | 500 |
| Useful arts | 500 |
| Fine arts | 100 |
| Literature | 3500 |
| Fiction | 3500 |
| History. | 5500 |
| Total | 28750 |

Of the 800 public documents about one-half are duplicates. The books of the Lyceum or City Library were mostly published before 1850. A few books of fiction that have been added since are worn out, and will have to be rejected. The Fisk Library, as has been mentioned, has made considerable purchases within the last 12 years, but these include few or no books of science; in fact, in the classes of sciences, useful and fine arts, the field is almost clear for the formation of a library fit to meet the demand for useful modern books. The Lyceum Library was classified on the Dewey system, and needed little if any alteration. The Lyceum has no accession-book ; it was therefore resolved to accept the Fisk numbers, and newly accession all the Lyceum books. This, of course, involved considerable time and labor, especially since the assistants of the new library were without experience.

It was desirable to interest the public as soon as possible. Therefore the periodical reading-room was opened on the 18th of January, 1897, with periodicals classified as follows: daily newspapers, six local, 20 representative of the great centres of the United States, and four European; in addition to these were 175 weeklies and monthlies, covering the general field of literature, science, and art. 200 persons a day have availed themselves of the information provided in the reading-room. On March 15 there was ready a finding-list of about 2800 books of fiction, all of which had been newly accessioned and labelled. The circulation, which began on that date, has rapidly risen to an average of 180 daily.

The situation of the Howard Memorial Library within five blocks relieves the Public Library of the necessity of duplicating the large number of valuable reference-books which exist in that collection. After a time the catalog cards of the Howard Memorial which refer to books duplicated in the Public Library will have the sign Howard Memorial Library placed against every book which is in both libraries, so that the reader who desires a book in the Public Library will be able, when it is in circulation, to find it with certainty in the Howard Memorial Library. The fact that the president of the Public Library is the secretary of the Howard Memorial Library is an assurance that there will be no wasteful competition between the two institutions.

The circulation of the fiction before that of the more serious branches of literature gives satisfaction to the greatest number of readers and allows the staff to become gradually accustomed to the charging system and Dewey classification. It also gives time for the preparation of the Lyceum books for circulation and for the large accessions necessary to bring up the entire collection to the necessities of the day.

By the first of October it is hoped that the entire library will be in shape for circulation, with a classified catalog of 24,000 books.

In the month of December, by which time the library will have proved its usefulness to every member of the community, the budget of the city will be prepared. The library will then submit its claim for support in the same proportion to the wealth and condition of finances of the city as in other American cities. Should the council find it possible to afford an annual appropriation of $25,000, immediate steps will be taken to enlarge the scope of the work of the library. Branches will be established in the more distant districts, and sufficient books will be added to ensure constant co-operation with the schools, many of which have already provided themselves with respectable collections of books. To these the monthly supply of 50 circulating books from the Public Library will be of great service.

# ON THE LITERATURE OF LIBRARY HISTORY.

BY FREDERICK J. TEGGART, ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN LELAND STANFORD JR. UNIVERSITY.

IT speaks well for the modesty of librarians, as a class, that living in a chronic state of temptation, they seldom either make books themselves, or read those produced by others; and that the accessions to their private collections are mostly confined to certain volumes which have been supplied by the liberality of the Bureau of Education and the periodical publications presented gratuitously by second-hand booksellers.

Some reason for the inadequate literary treatment which libraries have received is undoubtedly to be found in the peculiar nature of the subject, which does not yield readily to a flowing style. Being rooted to a definite spot, there is no going forth of the library to seek adventure — and of the librarian but once a year.

As a rule, librarians with an overmastering desire to write, have shirked the difficulty of making a table of statistics readable by limiting the figures to the known or imagined growth of a particular institution, the more timorous confining their efforts to the preparation of an improved system for the classification of human knowledge as displayed in books. I might say that the most extensive and readable literature is always devoted to the history of libraries which may never have existed — save in the histories — as for example that of Osymandyas.

Not long since I made acquaintance with the work of "A Gentleman of the Temple," who in the early part of the 18th century produced a work entitled "A critical and historical account of all the celebrated libraries in foreign countries, as well ancient as modern" (London, 1739). The author, in his preface, states that "this is, perhaps, the first essay on the subject in our language"; and further affirms that "no species of history furnishes us with such a variety of instructive and delightful incidents as that of books and libraries, which some of the renowned princes and sages of antiquity valued at a higher rate than any of their other possessions."

Much of the interest of this little volume attaches to the scientific method of its author. Singularly enough his best accounts are of libraries which all subsequent writers have entirely neglected to mention. It must be also acknowledged that the nearer home he comes the less detailed becomes his information. Of the 200 pages of this "first essay," 100 are devoted to the libraries of antiquity: "Hebrew, Chaldean, Egyptian," etc.; in 70 more the author treats "critically and historically" the European libraries of his own day, and lapses back in the concluding 30 pages to China and Ethiopia.

An example of his treatment might be of interest. He thus describes the libraries of the Netherlands:

"The Jesuits Library at Antwerp, and that of the Franciscan monks, are very curious."

"The monks of St. Peter have a library at Ghent, as have also the Dominicans and the Carmelites."

"There is a library at a monastery between Dunkirk and Newport which is said to be very famous for its great number of manuscripts," etc., etc., etc.

As I have hinted, distance in time and space are rather an advantage to him, as may be inferred from the opening account "of the Ethiopian libraries":

"But all this [which has gone before] is very inconsiderable when it is placed in opposition to the Library which is reported to be deposited in the Monastery of the Holy Cross upon Mount Amara in Ethiopia.

"History informs us that Anthony Brieus and Lawrence of Cremona, were sent by Gregory XIII. into that Kingdom, to see that famous Collection, which is divided into three Parts, containing together ten Millions and an hundred Thousand Volumes, all wrote upon fine Parchment, and kept in silk Cases. We are told besides, that it owes its Original to the Queen of Sheba, who visited Solomon, from whom she received a Present of a great many Books, particularly those of Enoch upon the Elements, and other Philosophical Subjects, with those of Noah, upon Mathematical Topicks and sacred Rites, and those which Abraham composed in

the Valley of Memra, where he taught Philosophy to those who assisted him in conquering the Five Kings who had taken his Nephew Lot Prisoner, and likewise those of Job and others, which some assure us, are to be seen in that Library with the Books of Esdras, the Sybils, the Prophets, and the High Priests of the Jews besides such as are supposed to have been wrote by that Queen and her Son Memilech."

The interest of this performance of "A Gentleman of the Temple" is not appreciably diminished, when we discover that the author was inspired to write in English a work on the same subject, and couched in terms identical with one written in French 60 years before him, by Le Sieur Le Gallois. So close is the translation, that were it not for the credit of "this first essay" on the history of libraries in the English language it would be necessary to dub the book as having been "borrowed."

This story, however, does not end here, for if the "Gentleman" who translated Le Gallois's book into English did not intimate the possibility of there being any origin for his work other than his own imagination, he was surpassed in frankness by Le Gallois himself.

In his preface the noble Frenchman avers that he has been aided in the preparation of the contents by certain persons and publications; "but," he continues, "it cannot concern you, my dear reader, whence I have taken the contents of this book."

Piqued by this want of due respect for the citation of "authorities," I set about discovering the "quelques Mémoires" in question. The source of Le Gallois's information was, in fact, the Latin work of Johannes Lomeier, "On libraries," published at Zutphen in 1669—a very monument of misdirected energy and want of discrimination, but of so fascinating a character as to be honored with three French editions in a few years; and as I have stated, the compliment of another gentleman, even though not a poet, finding in it "his own."

Lomeier's book is one of a singular group of works on library history, collected and published by Joachim Joannes Mader, and re-edited in three volumes between 1702 and 1705 by a priest named Schmidt. These volumes represent the starting-point of library science in modern times. I say modern, for the literature of library history in ancient Greece and Rome was not insignificant, as the titles of the works of Artemon of Cassandra, Herennios Philon, Telephos of Pergamon, and M. Terentius Varro bear ample witness, and we are looking forward with expectancy to the translation of the bibliographic treasures of Tello and Nippur!

Of no other subject, probably, than "library history" is it true that no history of it has been written in the German language. Not that Germans are not interested in libraries, or in writing about them, since they have published a new manual of library economy on an average every three years for the last three-quarters of a century. But as regards library history, they seem not yet to have emerged from the monographic period, as the 30 publications on the library of Alexandria alone attest.

To the present moment the only work in general library history worthy of consideration is Edwards's "Memoirs of libraries," published in London, 1859, in two volumes, which together contain 2010 octavo pages.

The "Memoirs" is a noble monument of disinterested zeal; and while the lack of perspective has been criticised, which devotes 150 pages of the first volume to printing some early catalogs *in extenso*, I would hesitate to deny the value of these pages as they stand, though I seem to hear distant murmurs as of a publisher's anathemas still lingering about them.

Four hundred pages treating of "the libraries of the ancients" and of "the Middle Ages" brings the work down to "the modern libraries of Great Britain and Ireland," under which head 120 pages are devoted to the Library of the British Museum. In the second volume the discussion of the British libraries is concluded, the 600 pages devoted to this subject bringing it down so as to include a consideration of the acts of 1850 and 1855, and a brief account of the libraries established under them. "The libraries of the United States of America" are appreciatively treated in 80 pages. If this appears a small number, remember that it was written over 35 years ago. Subsequently the libraries of each of the countries of Europe receive consideration. Notes in the eighth and ninth volumes of the *Library Journal* announced that a new edition of the "Memoirs" was under way, and its publication expected in 1884. But in 1886, when the author died, it had not appeared.

For such a store-house we are all under a

debt of lasting gratitude to the indefatigable but somewhat ill-starred author. Among half a dozen other works which Edwards published on libraries, perhaps his "Free town libraries" only need be mentioned. It remains the first as well as the only attempt to treat connectedly of the "formation, management, and history" of what we usually term "public libraries," in Britain, France, Germany, and America. (Lond., 1869.)

Of the libraries of the United States, the earliest account appeared in the *Serapeum* (Leipzig) in 1845–46. The seven articles which appeared under the title "Bibliographie und Bibliotheken in den Vereinigtenstaaten von Nord-Amerika" were contributed by H. Ludewig, of New York.

In 1849 the British House of Commons appointed a commission to make inquiries concerning public libraries. In the course of its investigation the commission requested information from foreign governments concerning the public libraries in their dominions. To this request answers were readily sent in except by the United States, the Secretary of State replying, under date of July 18, 1850, "That, with every disposition to do so, the Department finds that it has no means of gratifying the wishes of Her Majesty's government in this respect."

The editors of the Libraries Report of 1876 draw the inference from this statement (p. 759) "that one of the reasons of the attempt to gather the statistics of public libraries in the United States census of 1850 was the discovery of our inability to answer the inquiry." By these comments one's curiosity is considerably aroused, for on Jan. 1, 1850, Chas. C. Jewett, librarian of the Smithsonian Institution, had reported to the secretary of the Institution his "Notices of public libraries in America," which contains exactly the information the English government desired to obtain. Morover, for some unassigned reason the printing of this report of Jewett's was held over for a year, the title-page bearing the date 1851.

Such items furnish food for speculations into which I will not enter.

Jewett explains his object in preparing the "Notices" as follows: "Of these [public] libraries I have endeavored to collect such historical, statistical, and descriptive notices as would be of general interest; together with such special details as would be beneficial to those who are engaged in the organization and care of similar establishments" (p. 4).

To accomplish the end in view a circular letter was sent out, and in addition to the information derived from the answers received, quotations were given from local histories, newspapers, and other similar sources.

The only query in the circular which perhaps would not be quite familiar to us is, "Have the books been injured at any time by insects?" Those insects seem to have had a happy existence in the early days of the century. One bold librarian, whose library was open "every day from 4 p.m. till 9," and to whose library "eight or ten" persons "resorted daily," states that the books may be saved from insects "by taking them out every week or two and striking the backs together, also by clippings of Russia leather scattered about on the shelves."

The Smithsonian Institution continued for some years to accumulate material in emendation and extension of Jewett's report. When, however, this new material was prepared by W. J. Rhees and "presented to the secretary of the Institution, he found it so extended with matter not within the original design, that he did not think himself authorized to adopt it as a Smithsonian report on libraries." Consequently the Institution issued in 1859 a report of 84 pages, coming within the required scope, and Lippincott in the same year published for Rhees a volume of 715 pages, entitled "Manual of public libraries, institutions, and societies in the United States and British Provinces of North America."

Statistics of libraries have been included in the census reports since 1850, but as remarked by Gen. Walker in 1872, "the statistics of libraries have never been very creditable to the United States."

Since the establishment of the U. S. Bureau of Education the subject of libraries has received ever-increasing consideration as being a branch of the educational system of the country. Thus the two pages of statistics on libraries contained in the annual report for 1869 had grown in 1893 to a separate volume of 226 pages.

Statistics were contained also in the special report issued by the Bureau of Education in 1876 on "The public libraries of the United States of America: their history, condition, and management." This report was the first co-

operative effort of the libraries of this country, and was edited by Samuel R. Warren and Major S. H. Clark, who were appointed by the Commissioner of Education. About two-thirds of its 1200 pages are taken up with historical, descriptive, and statistical matter, the remainder with papers on library economy.

The *Library Journal* has for the most part absorbed all the energy of those librarians who during the last 20 years have felt inclined to compose literary-wise on professional themes.

Professor Justin Winsor seems to have been one who, at a time, had dreams of being the historian of American libraries. At a time when no reliable information was available, he collected statistics of libraries in this country and in Europe, and published them as an appendix to the 17th annual report (1869) of the Boston Public Library. A decade later he made a readable contribution to the subject in a series of articles which were published in the *Literary World* (1879–80). Without laying too much emphasis on the comparison, our compatriot seems to have made about the same discovery as his predecessor — of whom I have made mention — that it is easier to write the history of libraries in pre-library days than afterwards. In this case the author leads off strongly with "The beginnings of our public library system: 1672–1838," hovers over M. Vattemare for a couple of papers, and ultimately sinks out of sight with "Bookbuying 30 years ago."

The two opening chapters in Fletcher's "Public libraries in America" are a valuable historical contribution, although brief.

Much has been said from time to time before the conferences as to the need and value of a library handbook, which would embody the bibliothecal wisdom of our day. Doubtless such a work would be appreciated, but it is evident that the difficulties in the way of its production have been too great.

There is, however, another means by which the men who 20 years ago founded this Association, and have since been its stay and support, could additionally inspire and stimulate the younger generation upon whom in time their mantle must fall, and that is by recording the library history of their own time.

It is not a means which would entail upon any single person too great an amount of labor, yet it is one which would preserve its stimulus and value to every generation of librarians yet to come.

What would not the world at large give for the personal recollections or memoirs of the men to whose inspiration was due the building of the great cathedrals and the great universities of Europe?

And yet the democratization of the libraries of our country within the 20 years just passed is in every sense as important an event in the history of our race as those other more ancient foundations. As important, too, in the development of republican ideals as they were permanent factors in religion and education.

The men to whom we, the younger generation of librarians, look up, are great men of our day, and it will be infinitely deplored in the time to come if we do not, by every form of inducement which can be brought to bear, prevail upon them to give to us an account of the personal aspirations, experiences, recollections, of the men to whom is due the foundation and establishment of the American Library Association and its work.

# THE SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

BY ALFRED C. POTTER, ORDERING DEPARTMENT HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY.

FOR the purposes of the present discussion it is not necessary to differentiate the college and the university library. Both may be considered as essential parts of institutions of the higher learning, and as such their functions are identical, namely, to educate, by every means in their power, the readers that come to them. That the readers that frequent the university library include in general more advanced students than those that go to the college library need not concern us here. Nor need we dwell on the fact that the university library often includes the special libraries of the various schools — the theological, the medical, the law school, etc. The wants of these are generally so special and are so often looked after by a separate librarian that we need not consider them. Our attention may for the present be confined to the central library of the university, which for practical purposes does not differ essentially from the college library. The readers of both may be conveniently divided into two main classes — teachers and students.

It is the needs of these two classes and the best way of supplying them that we are to consider in this paper. It is obvious that the freshman, still in his teens and with mind crude and unused to books, will require very different kinds of books from those that may rightly be demanded by the professor, past-master of the most intricate problems of science or literature.

The wants of the students are comparatively simple and easy to satisfy. In the main their principal demands will be for books to be used in connection with the courses of study — not indeed text-books, for those at least the student should be encouraged to own, but the works that are recommended for reading by the instructors as supplementary to the courses. For the average student, elementary works rather than advanced treatises are needed. Then, too, he needs all the reference-books we can provide for him. But our duty to the student is not ended when we have placed before him the necessary tools for his classwork. It is not enough if we supply him with the material needed for his theses or for his part at commencement. Perhaps the highest duty of the college towards its students is to give them general culture, and in this the library can do a large share. The standard works of literature — the writings of the great poets, novelists, essayists, and historians — may or may not be treated in the college curriculum. Nevertheless, the library should have them on its shelves and should encourage the students to read them. In this way can the library aid the college in sending out on commencement day men who are more than mere scholars, who are well-read, who know the world of books and how to use it, who, in short, have attained not only scholarship but culture.

For the professors we must provide wholly different books. They may be presumed, each in his own subject, already to be acquainted with both the elementary and standard books. They will want new books giving the latest theories, the results of the most advanced research. They will need also the older works as showing perhaps the rise and early development of their subjects. While for the student it is wise to provide only the best, for the professor, surveying his field in its widest extent, everything is necessary — good, bad, and indifferent. While the books for the students will be in general inexpensive, those needed by the professors will oftentimes be rare and costly. But when we regret the fact that for the price given for a book that will perhaps be used by a single professor, we could buy 50 books that would be used by a hundred students, we must remember that the furthering of research is a part of our function.

If I have dwelt somewhat at length on this analysis of the kinds of books required, it is because in it I find the key to my main subject — "The selection of books for college libraries." No library, I suppose, has money enough to buy *all* the books needed for its work; and the college librarian is always greatly hampered in his operations by the college treasurer. In some way, then, a selec-

tion must be made of the most necessary books. Now, if we examine the various kinds of books wanted, we shall see that they fall into practically the same lines as the college courses — that is, the students want books on the subjects of the courses they are studying, and the professors on those they are teaching. Thus it is natural that we should turn to the instructors in the various departments of study for aid in the choice of books.

Theoretically a college library is in a most advantageous position in this matter of selecting books and is far better off in this respect than the public library; for it has a body of trained specialists whose privilege it is and duty it should be to select the books for its shelves. Not only are these specialists familiar with the literatures both past and current of their various departments, but they may fairly be supposed to know better than the librarian can what gaps exist in the present collections and what is most needed to fill them. In short, the theoretical position of the college library is nearly ideal. But in practice the ideal is apt to be somewhat shattered; it has sometimes seemed to me that almost any other system of selecting books would be better than that usually followed by college libraries.

Let us examine for a moment their general mode of procedure. In most colleges there is appointed a commitee consisting of perhaps the president, half a dozen professors, and the librarian, to have the general oversight of the library. Commonly the most important and sometimes the only duty of this committee is to apportion at the beginning of the year the income available for books among the different departments of study. Each of the appropriations thus made is then to be expended under the direction of the professor or professors of that department. An allowance is usually left to be spent by the librarian for general works and for books in subjects not taught in the college. Under such a system it is the duty of the professors to see that the money allowed them is all properly expended, and it is the duty of the librarian to see that no professor exceeds the amount allotted him. To the librarian should be assigned at least an advisory and preferably a veto power. When, for example, a guileless professor of English literature with an appropriation of $200 orders the first edition of Robert Burns, a copy of which sold lately for £121, it is time for the librarian to cry halt. And in general he must by judicious advice endeavor to check the unwise expenditure of appropriations. He must see that the books bought are of a useful character; that extravagant purchases are not made. The income of a college library should not be spent for bibliographical curiosities — for large-paper copies, fine bindings, or other "collectors'" books. But the librarian's duty has more than a negative side; he must not only see that the most important general works are purchased out of the money reserved for that purpose, but he should constantly bring to the attention of the professors the titles of books that he fears they may have overlooked. Thus with a wide-awake librarian, ready both to check and drive forward the professors, this plan of selecting books ought to be most successful. But for many causes it falls far short of what might reasonably be expected of it.

In the first place the professors are not machines all built in the same shop and warranted each to order every year a given amount of books and no more. On the contrary they are very human and their varying personal equations enter largely into the problem. Some are too busy, some, I fear, too lazy, to order their full quota of books, and some, on the other hand, are always inclined to order more than their fair share. The only trouble with the men in the last class is that it is sometimes hard to convince them that their money really is all gone. In excuse for those that do not order enough we ought to remember that to select with judicious care several hundred dollars' worth of books in any subject every year requires no small amount of time and labor, and that the average college professor is a very busy man.

Yet it is a most serious matter for the library to be falling behind in any subject; not only is it a present evil, but its effects will be felt for years to come. It may be said that in a long series of years this evil will rectify itself, that the inactive professor who orders few or no books will in time be succeeded by a more energetic man who will fill up the gaps. And in the long run this is true — at the end of a century the neglected subject probably would be filled up and the balance of the library restored. But it is small consolation to know that at the close of the 20th century the defi-

ciencies caused by the negligence of one of the professors of to-day will have been made good. And it is a heavy burden that the negligent professor is leaving for his successors. Suppose, to take an illustration at random, that the members of the mathematical department do not care whether the library buys any mathematical books or not and hand in almost no orders. This goes on perhaps for ten years, when new members enter the department, and the new blood infused begets new activity and the desire to order books once more. The new instructors will find that they have not only to buy the important current publications but to make up the arrears of a decade. While the science of mathematics has been advancing the library has been stagnant, and it will be years before it can recover from the temporary paralysis. Thus the iniquity of the professor of to-day shall be visited on his successors unto the third and fourth generation. Then there is the professor who orders by fits and starts, who one year orders everything that appears on his subject and the next year almost nothing, and who is sure to fail to order the most important book. This danger of important publications being overlooked by the professors is a serious matter that can only be guarded against by watchfulness on the part of the librarian. The danger increases where there are several instructors ordering on one appropriation, or when a book might fall under any one of several appropriations.

But if the negligent professor is an injury to the library, so in but slightly less a degree is the hobby-horsical professor — the man who allows his hobby to gallop away with the whole of his appropriation, leaving nothing for the riders of other and perhaps better horses. But to drop the metaphor, which to tell the truth is almost running away with me, the professor with a specialty may do decided harm to the library, or at least to the portion of it under his direction. He will almost invariably develop its resources on this specialty at the expense of the other sides of his subject. Perhaps the French professor is an enthusiastic Molierist, and has gathered many editions of Molière, supplemented by a great mass of biographical and critical material. The collection is of undoubted value, and contains everything needed for a most profound study of the master of French comedy; but the student of modern French literature and criticism will find that his wants have been scantily provided for. Or again it is the professor of history whose hobby is the history of the Slavic countries ; he has stocked the library well with histories of Russia and Bulgaria in all sorts of unreadable languages, but left England and France and Germany to look out for themselves. Or perhaps the professor of physics is engaged in investigating the velocity and length of light waves, and orders only books that will help him in his own researches; the students anxious to explore other fields of physics, the whole realm of electricity for instance, must go away unsatisfied. These imaginary cases are perhaps somewhat exaggerated, although I have in mind one at Harvard that furnishes a fairly close parallel. Yet they do serve to illustrate the grave danger of leaving the matter of ordering too much in the hands of the professors. The specialties mentioned above are all valuable in themselves, but if allowed to develop without due regard to other branches of the same subjects, the inevitable result will be a lamentably one-sided library.

Another serious defect of this system is the failure to provide sufficiently for subjects not covered by the college curriculum. To a certain extent the librarian can purchase the more important of such books out of the reserve fund under his control; but that sum, usually small, is apt to be pretty well exhausted by the demands upon it for general works and reference-books. The result is that when, as not infrequently happens, a new subject is introduced among the college courses, the new instructor finds the library contains few of the books that he needs.

But before we consider the remedies for this undesirable state of things, it is but just that we should glance at the other side of the picture. Too much cannot be said in praise of the priceless aid that the conscientious and scholarly professor often gives in the selection of books. Busy with a thousand other things, he devotes his time and his skill to advancing the interests of the library in ways that are beyond the reach of the librarian, no matter how accomplished he may be. For the latter cannot have the special knowledge that the professor has attained by a lifetime of study in one line. Thus in the course of years of earnest effort may the professor create special collections that shall be unrivalled

and shall make the library a Mecca for scholars. The recompense for his unstinted labors will be the pleasure of seeing the gradual completion of his ideals, and of having his own knowledge increased by the use of the books he has helped to gather. And in passing I cannot refrain from paying a tribute to the late Professor Child, of Harvard. No one outside of the Harvard Library can realize the great service he did towards building up its collections. A student of the highest rank and profoundest knowledge, he gave to the library for many years the benefit of his ripe scholarship and wide acquaintance with books. The amount of time and energy that he devoted to this work of selecting books can hardly be appreciated; its value cannot be over-stated. The result of his labors is that the Harvard collection of folklore is probably second to none in the world, while in the other subjects in which he took especial interest — ballads, mediæval literature and romances, and Scandinavian and Slavic literature — the collections certainly equal any in this country. Nor were these books gathered by any excessive or lavish expenditure of money, but rather by careful purchasing and patient waiting. It is when one considers what such a man as Professor Child can do for a college library that one hesitates to condemn utterly this system of allowing the professors to choose the books. However serious one may deem its defects, the possibilities of the plan stand out so clearly that one is inclined to find modifications rather than to seek a substitute.

In the way of modifications and improvements much can be done by the librarian without making any radical change in the system. By personal interviews with the professors who are not doing their part in the ordering or who are ordering books too largely on one subject, he may bring them to see the error of their ways and (perhaps) to reform. He can frequently send them for approval titles of books that he thinks ought to be in the library in their department. At Harvard we have a printed return envelope that we send with such suggestions. I have found one obstacle to the use of this scheme in that the very professors that we wish to reach — that is, those who do not order enough books — are the very ones who fail to approve the suggested title. Either they ignore the hint entirely or they decline to sign the order for one or another reason — usually because they have a list of books they mean to order when they have time, but that time never comes. On the other hand, the men who always order more than their appropriations will pay for and whose orders are always waiting on the deferred list for better times or a new year — these men are ready to approve every order sent them. A friendly hint from the librarian that an appropriation is not being used up and is therefore in danger of being reduced by the committee another year on the ground that it is unnecessarily large is often effectual. Even the most indifferent professor is disturbed at that prospect; he likes to have his full allowance whether he uses it or not. If the librarian can ask the professor to examine the book itself instead of merely sending him the title of it, it is often a great gain. Arrangements can be made with the booksellers to send packages of new books from time to time on approval; these can be kept open to the inspection of the professors for a week or so, and it is surprising how much they will be looked over and how many good books will be bought from them that would not otherwise be ordered.

Encourage the professors to order by using as little red-tape as possible — at least keep it out of their sight. Do not insist on their writing out a regular order-card for every book they want. Take the orders gratefully in whatever way they prefer to give them — checked in a publisher's or bookseller's catalogue, written in a letter or scrawled on a page torn from a pocket diary, or delivered by word of mouth — take them in any form; the librarian and his assistants can copy them on the order-cards and tie them up with as much red-tape as the ordering system may require. Even when the absent-minded professor comes in and says he wants a book he saw noticed a few weeks ago, he has forgotten the author's name and can't recall the title, but he is sure it is a good book because the *Nation* or the *Saturday Review*, he really can't remember which, said so, try to find out what he wants and get it for him. Make him and all the rest of the faculty understand that they are doing the library a favor when they order books.

A remedy that I should like to see tried — perhaps some of you may have tried it? — is to allow the librarian to fill up the order lists under such appropriations as are not nearly exhausted by a given time, say two months before the end

of the year. This would throw a heavy task on the librarian, but would tend toward a more even development of the library than if the appropriations were allowed to lapse, or than if the unused balance, as has sometimes been suggested, were turned over to some other department where it would be more appreciated. A similar remedy, and one that we have tried several times at Harvard, is to give the librarian a share in appropriations that experience had shown were not used up by the professors in charge.

The evil of injudicious and one-sided ordering is harder to cope with than insufficient ordering. Moral suasion is about the only means available, and that is often of little use in stopping the mad gallop of the professional hobby-horse. The professor accustomed to this system is apt to resent any interference with his full freedom of ordering, and to think himself a better judge of the needs of the library in his particular department than the librarian. Still with a little diplomacy much may be done to change the current of ordering into better and wider channels. If there are other and especially younger men in the affected department induce them to take their share in the work of ordering. And let the librarian himself continually exert his influence to counteract the evil.

A more radical remedy would be to grant the professors only the right of suggestion instead of a practically absolute control over the appropriations. Let their orders be considered on their individual merits by the librarian or a book committee, as would those asked for by the patrons of any other library. But if the professors found their orders were liable to rejection they would be likely to take less interest than they do now, and the library would thus lose much of the benefit derived from their special knowledge. While the growth of the library as a whole would undoubtedly be more systematic and even, I cannot but think that in many departments the books would be chosen with less skill and good judgment. In other words, in spite of the many drawbacks which I have pointed out, it seems pretty clear that the best interests of the college library are promoted by depending largely on the aid of the professors in selecting the books. But in order to secure the best results the librarian must not feel that he is relieved of the responsibility for the proper increase of the library. His duties are rather added to, for he must see that each member of the faculty does his proper share of the ordering and does it well. He must urge Prof. This to order more books, must keep Prof. That from ordering too many, and must make Prof. The Other dismount from his hobby-horse. And all the while he is managing this staff of specialists he must spend wisely his own appropriation for general books. Thus with constant watchfulness and ready action the librarian can do much toward bringing this system nearer to its ideal perfection.

I have not tried to distinguish between the needs of the large and the small college library. The principle of selection must be the same for both; the details will differ in every library. No matter how ample the income may appear, the demand for books will always exceed the supply of money. The larger the library the greater its needs. No professor in a college with an annual income of perhaps $1000 for books would think of suggesting that $700 of it be spent for Wadding's *Annales Ordinis Minorum*, or $200 for Bulæus' *Historia Universitatis Parisiensis;* but his fellow in the university with its annual expenditure for books of $15,000 or $20,000 may demand such works as a right. What particular books to buy will be a different problem in each library, and the solution of it will depend on the amount of income, the class of readers, the presence of a considerable body of graduate students and professors doing special work, the proximity of other libraries, and many other varying factors. In short, generalization would be futile. For this reason I have preferred to consider the *methods* of selection which in principle do not differ materially for great or small libraries.

There are several other matters which I hope will be discussed in connection with the general topic of the selection of books. In the few minutes left at my disposal I can only suggest them in the hope that you will take them up for discussion.

The first is the question of periodicals. How large a portion of its funds is the college library justified in spending for periodicals? Should we allow a professor to use the whole or a great part of his appropriation for them? The demands of the professors in this direction are almost insatiable. In order to keep abreast of

the advance of any science it is necessary to have the costly and constantly increasing periodical literature of that science. The aggregate expense of providing these indispensable tools of the professor's trade is enormous, and the value of them is often in the main temporary, for the more important results are sure to appear sooner or later in the form of monographs, and the original tentative form will retain mainly an historical interest. Every periodical subscribed to constitutes a permanent liability against our funds, and cripples the library's purchasing power in other and more lasting directions. At Harvard we are constantly resisting the pressure to add new ones to our lists, yet in spite of ourselves we are spending over a third of our income for periodicals and the publications of learned societies, and the burden is growing from year to year.

Another question is the matter of providing duplicates of books in special demand. A professor recommends his class of 50 or a 100 men to read a certain book before the next lecture. Even if the book is on our reserve shelves it is impossible for the whole class to read it in two or three days. Shall we buy a second copy? a third? or even more? The Harvard practice has been against this duplication, although we have made an occasional exception. The need is usually a comparatively temporary one, and it has not been thought a wise policy to spend our funds in gratifying it. The most important exceptions have been in the class-room libraries, where sometimes a dozen copies of a much-used book are provided. And this brings me to my last point for discussion — the selection of books for class-room libraries.

Class-room or seminary libraries have now become a prominent feature in most colleges and universities. Should the choice of books for them be left entirely to the professors in charge of the particular department? Should the books in them be duplicates of those in the central library or should the aim be to supplement the main collection? My own opinion is very strong that if a college owns but one copy of a book it should be in the main library, and that these subordinate libraries should contain merely a working collection of the more necessary books, duplicating those in the college library proper. Yet I find some class-room libraries managed on precisely the opposite theory of providing only books that are not in the college library, while others are run haphazard without any theory at all, the books being purchased by the professor in charge without regard to whether or not they are duplicates.

Let me sum up in a few words my main conclusions on this subject of selecting books for college libraries. The system usually in vogue of leaving the matter chiefly in the hands of the members of the faculty is by no means ideal; and I have tried to indicate some ways of avoiding its principal defects. No system can be perfect, and on the whole the advantages of this one outweigh its faults. With a few slight modifications, and most important of all with a librarian alive to his responsibilities and ready to amend by every means in his power the recognized shortcomings of the system, the books of the library under this plan will be well and wisely selected, and the library will thus be helped to do its proper share in the furtherance of the higher education for which our colleges and universities stand.

# THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST AMONG BOOKS.

BY ERNEST C. RICHARDSON, LIBRARIAN OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

IN considering this subject let me remark, in the first place, that the paper has nothing whatever to do directly with the question of moral fitness of books, but relates to that fitness to survive in the struggle for life which may or may not be affected by the question of moral, intellectual, or imaginative worthiness.

Again, and in a similar line, let me say that this paper does not concern primarily the question of the evolution of the ideas themselves, or their relative fitness to survive. No doubt there is a struggle for life among ideas, but this paper has to do with the idea in the definite form of a book, and the thesis is this: That among books as among men, animals, and plants, there is a struggle for life in which the fittest survive by reason of some favorable variation which gives them some advantage in the struggle, and the aim of the paper is to indicate some of the factors which tend to survival.

When the paper was first outlined it was discouraging, the facts seemed so obvious that it appeared as if the paper would not be interesting even to its author, but since then I have come across the following, signed J. E. in Mr. Aflalo's "Literary year-book": "But our point here," he says, "speaking calmly, is that in the propagation of books alone of Nature's creations, we can discover no tendencies at work to insure the survival of the fittest through the extermination of the unfit."

Here, at least, was some one to whom the matter was not obvious. In fact something quite otherwise was obvious. The issue could hardly be more clear-cut. It is a concrete example of the struggle for life among ideas. These two ideas of J. E. and E. C. R. are mutually exclusive. They cannot both survive, and yet in the long run the fittest will survive because it is the fittest, and then they will know which is the fittest because it has survived. In the meantime I beg to state the reasons for thinking that the fittest survive in this struggle for life in the race of books, and that there are definite tendencies at work to insure this survival.

The fact of the struggle and perishing is clear enough. All books do not live forever. We see moth and rust, weather and pet dogs at their destructive work all the time. There are, in fact, practically no autographs of the ancients — not a ms. of the New Testament earlier than the fourth century. Some of the ancients have utterly disappeared; but though so many copies of each have perished, Plato and St. Paul, for example, do survive. Why is it, then, that one book survives while another perishes? Is it the result of chance or law? I answer law in both cases.

It is clear in the first place that, apart from accidental causes, there is a direct tendency to cause the extermination of some books in the very fact of multiplication of books. The reading public does not provide food enough, so to speak, to support an indefinite book population. When this feeding-ground is overstocked some of the population must perish, and the less strong, the less beautiful, the less clever, fail to get the needed dollars, or readers, on which they feed, and so they perish; and books once strong are continually elbowed out of their natural feeding-ground by stronger ones with more favorable variations.

Metaphor aside, we know that few books are long lived; that the number of books which can keep human attention at any given time is so small that there must be a continual tendency of the less valuable to fall away, and if it is said that three books are written to every one that finds a publisher, and that three out of four among books published fail to pay, we know that large numbers actually are exterminated through the action of their enemies, the publishers, the critics, and pre-eminently the indifferent public, who, however, do not slaughter but only fail to nourish. This makes the analogy with animal survival the more striking, for, as Mr. Darwin had to keep constantly pointing out, the struggle among plants and animals does not so often mean slaughter as starvation, the weaker is not destroyed by the stronger, but the stronger is better able to secure food and escape fire and flood, and therefore sur-

vives, and the same is true of books. It is clear, therefore, that there is a strong tendency to extermination in the mere increase in production.

But while this is true of books themselves, the converse is true respecting the copies of any one book. The more editions and the more copies there are the greater the technical fitness to survive. The first factor in the survival of the fittest among books we may describe as, (1) Mere numbers. Suppose, *e.g.*, a large number of copies of a single edition of a popular book. It is clear that in dangers of war, fire, vandalism, mould, insects, hard reading, etc., the mere fact of numbers increases the probability that some member or members of the family will escape being worn to death or otherwise destroyed. A second factor is of similar character and may be called, (2) Wide distribution. Under wide distribution the probability which comes from mere numbers is greatly increased. An edition of some volumes of Migne's "Patrology," and in the same way an Oxford edition of "Lucretius," were almost wholly destroyed by fires which took place before they had left the warehouse. This represents a minimum of distribution, and the same thing might have happened if they had been distributed through a thousand houses in any one city, while it could not have happened if they had been distributed in a hundred cities in a score of countries.

A third factor may be found in (3) Durability of material. It is hardly necessary to enlarge on this. Very few of the papyri of Egypt have been preserved to us, while on the other hand the Assyrian and Babylonian tablets, although they suffer from breaking and disintegration, are yet preserved to us in much greater quantities. It has been said that the reason why the paper copies of some books are more valuable than the vellum copies is because they are rarer, and that this rareness is because they are printed on perishable material. One can well believe this on considering how rare an unworn, unmutilated copy of some early editions of the English Bible are.

Again, a fourth and most important factor is found in (4) Beauty of material. Many of the copies of the early printed books which we have are not merely in good condition, but very perfect. This is because they have been kept with peculiar care and little use, the very fact, *e.g.*, that a book is printed on vellum and more handsome leading to its being used and kept more carefully. In this way all that which is embraced under the term "luxury of books" contributes to survival. The early New Testament codices are for the most part magnificent specimens, and date from a peculiarly favored time when the production of a sumptuous edition was subsidized by the emperor. It is natural that in times of war and confiscation and prohibition that copies which from their fine workmanship or fine binding were peculiarly dear to the heart of the owner, or were peculiarly valuable financially, should be hidden with especial pains, should be rescued first from fire, should be saved as spoils by victors when other things were burned or thrown into the river, and so excellence in this regard has actually been a prime factor in survival. The same principle certainly holds in every-day use, in that in the family and in the public library the choice edition with fine print, margin, and illustration is cherished with peculiar care, and to such a degree that it often happens that a book of very indifferent merit as to literary quality is preserved simply on account of the conditions of its get-up, or some condition of environment which makes its preservation reasonable. The value, *e.g.*, which comes to a book at the present time simply from the fact of its having been one of the publications of the Grolier Club is a totally artificial matter, but it is one which puts men into competition for the privilege of safeguarding it, and makes it worth while to care for it on account of its financial value.

And so it may happen that a book sumptuously gotten up and which men hesitate to destroy on that account, may survive even a better book. It is not so fit to be read but fitter to be kept!

Once more, and finally among what may be called the external factors, any quality which tends to induce care, even known rarity and fragility which seem tendencies to extermination, or such accidental circumstances as extra illustrations, autographs, and the like, tends to survival. Some single unpublished ms. in the British Museum has a better chance of surviving the next one hundred years than hundreds of books now extant in hundreds of copies.

These external factors are the direct occasions of survival. The exercise of any one is a favorable variation which tends to survival, and

all survival is effected chiefly through them. This, however, is not all the story, for these favorable variations themselves are the direct product of the literary quality of the book itself, or what we may call the internal factors of survival.

The chief internal factors of survival are two in number: (1) vitality of idea, and (2) style, or beauty of form; that is to say, (1) strength, and (2) beauty. If two books are equal in literary skill then the one with the best ideas is best fitted to survive; if they are the same in idea then the one with style will tend to survive. Even if one is weak or wrong in idea it may, perhaps, through grace and charm of presentation, be better fitted to survive as a book than one which, though right in idea, is presented in a stiff, harsh, involved, and sesquepedalian style, and *vice versa*. In each instance there is something in common, and in one instance a favorable variation which tends to survival, and the works survive because of this favorable variation. Now, if (to make the matter more clear) the better ideas be united with the more artful presentation, there is then a combination of favorable variations which make survival sure, not again be it noted, by any aggression, but because the one is less fitted to survive in the struggle for readers than the other. These internal factors are the direct occasion of the external ones. It is the ideas and style of a book, *e.g.*, which cause multiplication and distribution of editions and copies.

Perpendicular ones often overtake horizontal ones by virtue of this fact. Homer, Virgil, Dante, and Shakespeare did not probably begin with as large initial editions as Marie Corelli or Lew Wallace, but there are probably more copies of Homer to-day than there will be of the "Sorrows of Satan" 3000 years from now.

In the same way it is esteem for the ideas and style which leads to the use of desirable and beautiful material aid to care.

Nevertheless it is not the internal but the external factors through which the survival is actually effected. They are the direct factors. It is therefore a natural selection. The books do not survive by any esoteric tendency of the really worthy to survive, but by reason of definite material circumstances which give one book an advantage over another in the struggle for life, and by definite historical steps do cause it so to survive.

The internal factors of ideas and style produce the external factors of number distribution, durability of material, beauty of material, and inducements to care. It is not necessary to call the attention of this audience to the close relation of these terms to the terms of scientific evolution.

If you say that it is still a matter of chance whether a book survives or not, I say that it is only chance in the same sense that it is in the case of plants and animals. Whether Providence lies back of a definite form of ideas or a definite form of animal or plant life it is not within the province of this paper to examine.

## A BIT OF CLASSIFICATION: TREATMENT OF HARVARDIANA BY THE HARVARD CLUB OF NEW YORK.

BY C: ALEX. NELSON, DEPUTY LIBRARIAN COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

THIS account of the classification which has been adopted for the library of the Harvard Club of New York City is given simply as a memorandum or note of what may be done for a special collection relating to a single university or college.

It is the aim of the Harvard Club to gather into its collection, to the fullest possible extent, whatever has been published by or concerning Harvard College or University since its foundation, as well as all that has been written by or about the officers and graduates of the university. With the exception of a few of the more useful and important books for general reference, the annual and triennial catalogs of other colleges, and annual club books, no effort will be made to procure books outside of the special field of Harvardiana.

The official publications will be classified under the several departments of the univer-

sity by which they are issued; *e.g.*, corporation, board of overseers, president, treasurer, etc., and those of the Phi Beta Kappa and other societies as society publications. The special feature of the plan is that adopted for the publications of graduates. These are arranged by the year of graduation of the authors, that is by the college classes, the authors in each class and biographies of members of the class being arranged in alphabetical order under the year of the class, preceded by the class books or secretary's reports when these have been published. This brings all the publications of each author together, no matter in how many different departments of literature or science he may have written. It also shows upon the shelves the literary history of each class that has been graduated from the university.

Graduates of the Law, Medical, Divinity and Lawrence Scientific Schools and Bussey Institute will be arranged by their classes in the several schools, except when they have been previously graduated as regular alumni, in which case the year of graduation from the college takes the preference.

In the case of pamphlet publications, of which several thousand have already been collected and bound, it is not expected that strictly exact classification can be observed, especially with those published in the earliest years of the college. It is held to be close enough if a single volume contain pamphlets written by members of several classes in the latter part of the 17th century, the years covered by the volume being lettered on the back. In later years more than one volume is often needed for the pamphlet publications of a single author. In a similar way articles contributed to magazines and periodicals are collected and bound up by classes (of authors).

The peculiarity of this classification springs from the peculiar demand made upon this special collection. The members of a club composed of the alumni of an institution of learning do not seek in a collection of its *ana* for information on science or general topics, but the most natural query in the mind of each is "What have the fellows been doing?" "What is the literary record of my classmates?" And the more exact and complete the answer to these queries, the more valuable the collection whence the answer is drawn. In a club of college graduates where the library shelves are open and free of access to all the members, arrangement by college classes as above indicated seems to be the best that can be adopted.

## THE CARE OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.

BY WILBERFORCE EAMES, LIBRARIAN OF THE LENOX LIBRARY, NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

MY remarks on the care of special collections will be restricted chiefly to the methods in use, or in contemplation for use, at the Lenox branch of the New York Public Library.

### RARE BOOKS.

I find that one of the subjects assigned to me is the treatment of rare books. For that matter it is well to state, at the outset, that in the arrangement of the Lenox collections no books are classed as rare or curious. They are treated, in fact, from a practical standpoint only, and are arranged according to their subjects and periods, with regard to the purposes for which they can best be used.

One of the specialties of the library being early American history, the books relating to that subject which were printed before 1800, are, with some few exceptions, shelved by themselves in chronological order, under the dates of publication, and in this way they form a sort of reserved group, in which the rarer and more valuable editions are included. When they are called into use, the reader is invited into a section of the reading-room set apart for the purpose, and the books are placed before him on cloth-covered tables, where they are used under supervision. Publications of early date in English literature and in other subjects are arranged in a similar way, and are treated with equal care.

Many of the more valuable books are reserved for the exhibition-room, where they are placed open in glass show-cases, which are made as nearly dust-tight as possible. Here, again, nothing is admitted merely because it is rare or curious. As the exhibition is mainly for educational purposes, the exhibits are selected with that end in view, and they are arranged in a systematic order.

I believe that this feature of the library is one of the most practical uses to which rare books can be put. It certainly attracts people, and if we may judge by the thousands who

visit the place every year, in increasing numbers, it must be appreciated by book-lovers and educators. There is a good deal to be learned from an exhibition of this kind. Among those who come are teachers with their classes and library schools with their instructors; visitors from out of town and tourists from abroad; and many with their note-books, jotting down the things they wish to remember. Indeed, those who come once generally come again and bring their friends with them. He who is interested in the origin and history of printing will find the record fully laid out before him, beginning with the earliest products of the art in all parts of the world; the student of English literature can trace here its growth from the first book ever printed in the English tongue down to the days of Spenser, Shakespeare, and Milton; the biblical scholar will see the ancient text and versions of the scriptures, in their primitive rolls, parchments, and most famous editions; and the specialist in American history will meet with the most important original material from the time of Columbus to the formation of our national government. Some come to see the first printed book, or the first Homer, or the first English Bible; and others to look on the handwriting of Milton, or on Jefferson's autograph manuscript of the Declaration of Independence, or on the original manuscript of Washington's Farewell Address.

In this way we aim to encourage and satisfy the desire of many to see the most famous landmarks of history and literature, and at the same time to save the volumes from unnecessary handling. As it may interest others to know what subjects we have chosen for illustration by means of rare books, in the manner described, I will name the principal of them here: 1st, ancient manuscripts; 2d, book illumination and miniature painting; 3d, artistic bookbinding, principally of early date; 4th, block-books, or printing before the invention of movable type; 5th, the origin of typographic printing in Europe, Asia, and Africa; 6th, early printing in North and South America; 7th, early wood-engraving, copper-engraving, and book illustrations; 8th, early educational literature, and books for the instruction of children, from 1450 to 1800; 9th, early editions of the Bible in various languages; 10th, old English literature; 11th, early voyages and travels to India and the East; 12th, early maps and the progress of geographical discovery; 13th, the discovery, settlement, and early history of America; 14th, the Indian wars of New England; 15th, American newspapers of the 18th century; 16th, the American stamp act and Revolution; 17th, notable publications of early date on the arts and sciences; and 18th, autographs of famous persons. There is in preparation a hand-list of this material, for the use of visitors, which will contain brief historical and explanatory notes.

We are sometimes asked whether exposure to light does not injure the books and manuscripts which lie open in the show-cases. I do not believe that it does, if the sunlight is avoided, and if the dust is not allowed to get on the open pages. Some of our volumes and manuscripts have been on exhibition, in one position, for nearly 20 years, and I doubt if many persons could pick out the pages that have been so exposed without a very close examination.

Rare books, like other books, should have air. It is a mistake to shut them up behind glass doors, or in close closets, where the air cannot circulate behind and around them. If they must be locked up it is better to have open wire doors. Where the shelves are not well ventilated the books will mould or grow musty. At the Lenox building we formerly used glass doors on some of the wall-cases, where the early printed books are kept, but the glass frames were all removed some years ago, and now we have wire screens in their stead. Another mistake, I think, is the general belief that dust will injure rare books. Ordinarily it will not, for where there is plenty of dust there is likely to be air also. I have no doubt that many books have been preserved in good condition merely by being well covered with dust for a long period. There is much more danger from heat and change in temperature. During the winter season the hot air with which our building is heated causes the vellum bindings to curl out and spread so much that many of the volumes have to be tied shut in order to keep them on the shelves. I believe that stack-rooms should be kept moderately cool or at an even temperature all the year round.

Not many months ago the librarian of one of our large New York libraries discovered a rare book in a volume of 17th century pamphlets. It was a fine copy of the first English publication on New York, a pamphlet that is worth in the market about $1000. Now this volume had been for a long time in the possession of the institution referred to, but having been put among the "rare" or "curious" books in the libra-

rian's office, it had not been cataloged; and being only a volume of pamphlets it was probably not considered worth cataloging.

I have here several volumes which show the skill with which rare books can be mended. One is a copy of the "Pilgrim's progress," saved from the fire at Sotheby's auction-rooms in London, in June, 1865. The back of the volume was burned entirely away, but each leaf has been pieced out with a new back margin and the book made whole again. Another volume has been remargined so skilfully, and the lost reading-matter supplied in manuscript so nearly like the print, that it will take sharp eyes to discover where the original ends and the facsimile begins. A third volume has one leaf in pen-and-ink facsimile so well done that it would easily escape detection. You all know how a leaf of printed matter can be split, preserving both sides intact. The repairers of rare books go still further. They will take the reading-matter from the surface of an old title-page, or from a page of text, and transfer it in good shape to another sheet of paper, making it appear like the original page in good condition. Samples of this kind of work may be seen in our library at New York.

Before leaving the subject of rare books, I will call your attention to a modern forgery of Columbus's letter, in Spanish, on the discovery of America, consisting of four leaves. The paper on which it is printed was evidently made for the purpose, in order to imitate the water-mark of the original edition of 1493, a figure of a hand and star. The book was got up abroad about four years ago, at the time of the Columbus celebration in this country, and after being bound in Paris in full morocco it was sent to America in search of a victim. It was offered for sale as an original, to the Lenox Library, at three different times, by as many different persons, and each time it was pronounced to be a forgery. On the last occasion the owner, an Italian bookseller, came himself, and at the close of our interview he pulled the leaves out of the covers, tore them into small bits, and then threw the pieces into the waste-basket. After he had gone away I took some pains to gather up the 60 or 70 fragments, and sent them to a skilled binder, who carefully pieced them together, and here the volume now is, a unique specimen of how rare books should not be made.

NEWSPAPERS.

Bound files of newspapers usually get a pretty rough handling, and they are likely to suffer much from mutilation by dishonest readers. We have made a specialty of collecting early American newspapers, and particularly of those printed in the 18th century. A list of this collection was printed at the end of our 25th annual report, two years ago, and this list tells, under each year, from 1704 to 1800, how many numbers of each paper were on hand, and what months they cover. I mention it now because it illustrates the chronological method of listing old newspapers. One can see at a glance just what kind of material there is for any one year. We have found the plan very useful.

Since the list was printed large additions have been made to the collection, which comprises now about 25,000 numbers for the period named. Many of the papers are in poor condition; some have been through fire and water, others are so worn by former use that they have to be handled with great care, and all of them are expensive. After consulting the wise men of Philadelphia and New York, we decided to bind each newspaper file in yearly volumes, mounting each leaf on guards, and interleaving each number with a sheet of stiff paper. In the course of binding different lots we hit upon some improvements, and the sample volume I have here to-day exhibits the result of our latest experiments. The binding is of half morocco, and the guards on which the leaves are mounted are of thin yet tough paper, set out far enough to let the leaves lay nearly flat. The stiff paper between each number is half an inch larger all the way around than the newspaper it protects, so that in turning over the leaves it is not necessary to touch the newspaper at all. Wherever numbers happen to be lacking, space is reserved in each case by putting in the guards as full leaves, any one of which can be cut down to a stub for mounting on whenever a missing number is found. This arrangement is the best we have been able to devise for preserving and protecting the oldest and most valuable class of newspapers. The cost of the binding (Stikeman's) is about $4 for each volume.

To treat newspapers of the present century in the same way would not be advisable, be-

cause it would be too expensive. A moderate amount of interleaving with stiff manila paper could be recommended in some cases, when the newspapers are not in good condition. In our classification we have placed the early printed newspapers in a room by themselves, apart from the files of modern newspapers, and when they are needed for reference, extra care is enjoined. Our usage would favor a separate catalog for the newspapers.

### BROADSIDES.

Printed broadsides, leaflets, and single sheets of early date are laid each one in a paper wrapper, which is lettered on the side and placed flat with others in its proper drawer or box. For the early printed broadsides we prefer the chronological arrangement under groups; for those of later date, the classification of ordinary books, treating them with reference to their local interest in many cases; and we would catalog each piece as if it were a book.

### MAPS.

Loose maps and plans are treated in a manner like the broadsides. Dividing them into two sizes, those under and those over 2½ by 2 feet, our usual plan is to place each map by itself in a paper wrapper, of one or the other size, on the back margin of which is written its title and distinctive mark. They are then arranged in geographical or alphabetical order, in case-drawers made for the purpose, which we prefer to portfolios. Folded maps in covers, and maps on rollers, should in most cases be preserved as they are, and be arranged by themselves. We would recommend a separate catalog for maps and atlases, indexing each map of the atlases.

### ENGRAVINGS.

Where there is a large number of engravings it is advisable to have a separate room for their accommodation. They will naturally divide into distinct groups, which will require different treatment, suited to their character and size. Portraits will have one order of arrangement; views will have another; works of certain engravers and artists will need to be kept together; and other groups will be necessary according to the size of the collection.

Strong flat pasteboard boxes are excellent for engravings of medium and small size. Where portfolios are used for large engravings, separate wrappers of stiff paper will be found a good protection. Many of the engraved portraits in the Emmet collection, belonging to the New York Public Library, are bound together in volumes, according to their sizes, and in alphabetical order. It is a good plan to catalog all prints and drawings by themselves.

Collections of books that have been brought together for the purpose of illustrating the work of some particular engraver, like Hollar, Vertue, Bewick, and Cruikshank, or our own Anderson and Darley, should be kept intact and in a place by themselves, as far as possible.

### ANNOTATED BOOKS.

Books which are made valuable by the autographs or manuscript annotations of famous persons, or even by their book-plates, should be given a place of their own, if it is desired to have them treated with care. We have put books of this kind in our manuscript department.

### EXTRA ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

Another class requiring special treatment consists of books that have been extended beyond their original form by the insertion of extraneous matter in the shape of autograph letters, portraits, views, and other engravings. This class we have also placed in the manuscript department. The method which we follow in indexing the inserted material will be described under the next division.

### MANUSCRIPTS.

I can add but little of interest to Mr. Friedenwald's remarks on the care of manuscripts. We have in our collection at the Lenox building somewhere between 10,000 and 20,000 manuscripts, mostly relating to American and English history, and a separate department has been organized for this portion of the library. Four rooms are set apart for the purpose, one of which is used for cataloging manuscripts. The bound manuscripts fill from 700 to 800 volumes. The loose material, which comprises several thousand pieces, is arranged in drawer cases. Groups of manuscripts which are bound together, or which belong together, are given some distinctive mark, like the Emmet Manuscripts, the Adams Papers, the Gates Papers, the Madison Papers, etc. The other loose letters

and documents are arranged alphabetically under the names of the writers, or under the headings by which they would be cataloged. Some of the manuscripts are inlaid on uniform sheets of paper, and those which are not are placed in paper wrappers, to be lettered on the outside.

In speaking of the extra illustrated books, I mentioned our method of indexing the material. Those of you who have seen the New York Public Library *Bulletin* may have noticed the analytical indexes of the Emmet volumes. In each recent number of the *Bulletin* is a description of the contents of one of these volumes. There are about 70 of them in all, large folios and quartos, relating to American history before 1800. Each volume contains from 50 to 100 manuscripts, and about the same number of portraits, views, or other illustrative documents, arranged in a systematic order. For instance, in the volume on the members of the Continental Congress from Pennsylvania, under each member will be found his portrait in one or more varieties, then perhaps a view of his residence, and finally one or two or three letters in his handwriting. In indexing this material, form-headings in italic are prefixed to most of the catalog headings, which are in heavy-faced type. These form-headings indicate at once whether the title following is of a letter, or portrait, or view, or something else. At the end of each title is the number of that particular document in the Emmet collection. Each other special collection of manuscripts has its own series of numbers. These titles are cut and mounted on cards for the general catalog of manuscripts.

I have thus attempted to give an outline of the treatment of some special collections under our care. Many of the problems of this nature have to be decided according to the means at hand, and each one must, to a certain degree, work them out for himself. I know that we will gladly welcome any method or device that will simplify our work in this line, and if others think they can benefit in any way by our experience, we shall certainly be glad to give all the information in our power.

## THE CARE OF MANUSCRIPTS.

BY HERBERT FRIEDENWALD, PH.D.

NO object that has ever had connection with the life of a man of renown bears so personal a relation to him as a piece of his manuscript. No treasures that come to a library are so precious as its manuscript collections. They are usually unique, and in but few instances have ever seen the light of the printer's day. Even where that has happened their value is not decreased, in that the manuscript must ever remain the final authority, the ultimate appeal, in cases of disputed rendering of the originals. In the case of scientific works of great importance they are often of inestimable value for indicating the development of the author's ideas, and of the method of their expression, while the work as printed gives but a presentation of the completed thought.

### RESTORATION.

It is proper and necessary, therefore, that manuscripts should be given a special and different care from that accorded even the rarest books. The latter, by means of substantial or extravagant bindings, may readily be put in a way to last for all time. Far more attention, however, must be bestowed upon manuscripts.

Where they are received already restored, mounted and bound, the problem of their care is much simplified, and resolves itself into the elements of stamping, cataloging, and shelving. But when manuscripts are purchased or donated in a condition that means increased injury after every handling, they must be restored, as nearly as may be, to their original state and made proof against further damage. For, in view of the constantly increasing estimate put upon the value of original material, it must be expected that a manuscript will be called for and consulted with as great frequency as one of the rarer books. They should, therefore, be so put in order that access to them is obtainable whenever properly in demand, and that they may be used without injury.

The first step, consequently, is the restoration of the manuscript. For it is no longer thought proper to simply paste it in a book,

without regard to whether the edges be ragged and the body be stained and crease-marked or not. Nor does the process of restoration merely mean piecing out the torn edges by pasting on bits of paper, nor yet filling up the holes in similar manner.

The work is begun by selecting from a stock of old paper a piece of the color, and, as nearly as possible, of the texture of the paper of the document itself. It is then placed on a lithographer's stone and moistened, when necessary, in order to remove the creases. The pieces that are to be attached are cut of the proper size, and, with an instrument resembling a shoemaker's awl, have their edges shaved down to their thinnest proportions. They are then skilfully fitted and pasted to the manuscript, with a paste the chief ingredient of which is rice flour. The unnecessary paste is then washed off, the manuscript is put between sheets of paper, which in turn are placed between other sheets of blotting-paper to absorb the moisture, and thus surrounded, it is put under great pressure in a letterpress, where it is allowed to remain for several days. Without calling the latter into requisition all the other work would count for nothing.

Had the manuscript been otherwise weak, a more vigorous treatment would have been requisite. Were the paper exceptionally thin and almost brittle, it would have been necessary to strengthen it by attaching either transparent linen tracing-cloth or ordinary paraffine paper used by florists, to the whole of the manuscript. To prevent curling the material intended to strengthen should in any event be attached to both sides of the sheets. The paraffine paper gives as satisfactory results as the heavier linen cloth, and is much less clumsy in appearance. I have seen documents that before restoration in this manner were so fragile as to almost crumble at a touch, yet which bore the appearance of having been treated to a coat of shellac rather than having been put through any other process. The letterpress must in any event be used, since it acts as a splint in cases of fracture, enabling the parts to knit in as nearly normal a manner as possible, with no shrinking or dislocation.

### STAMPING.

The manuscript must now be stamped, having thus been restored to its youthful appearance by the application of this elixir of life.

A diversity of opinion still exists respecting the advisability of stamping valuable manuscripts. As the object to be attained, however, is the prevention of the theft or disposal of the manuscripts, this can best be brought about by the use of a stamp. For various reasons, not the least of which is the little injury it does the manuscript, the embossing stamp is to be preferred. The size should not be too great; it should, of course, contain the name of the institution to which it belongs, and where possible, for convenience' sake, the designation of the series or collection of which it forms a part. Room should also be left for the addition of the number of the manuscript.

### MOUNTING AND BINDING.

The next proceeding is that of mounting and binding. The first question that looms into prominence here is that of the proportions of the volumes. The sheets upon which the manuscripts are to be mounted must have ample but not too large margins; and as manuscripts vary in size even when belonging to the same collection, each volume should be sufficiently large to hold the largest manuscripts without folding. Uniformity of size where documents belong to the same series must also be maintained wherever possible. Great care should be taken to have the volumes of light weight even at the risk of increasing the number rather than few and consequently heavy and bulky. For the amount of abuse a volume receives is in proportion to the effort required in order to handle it. If the document forms part of a collection that is constantly on the increase, some form of binding should be utilized that is out of the ordinary. A flexible binder of the nature of that devised by the lamented Dr. Stone, late librarian of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, should be used. This, while giving stability to the collection, yet permits of the extraction or addition of individual sheets whenever the occasion requires it.

When it is found necessary to remove old bindings, that have at one time been put about manuscripts, they should not be destroyed, but should be carefully preserved for purposes of reference. And when taken apart the backs of the old bindings should be carefully examined, for occasions are not infrequent when valuable manuscript or printed material has thus been found.

The question of caring for individual manu-

scripts, such as letters and documents of that nature, having but a slight connection with the rest of the collections, is one that also requires attention. When not suitable for purposes of exhibition (to which by reason of their detached nature they often particularly well lend themselves) they should be put away in cardboard boxes or in heavy envelopes made of manila paper. These should be of convenient size and should be suitably labelled. The manuscripts must, of course, first have been restored and mounted, and they may then safely remain thus cared for until the opportunity arises for binding them with other manuscripts.

### CLASSIFICATION.

The classification of manuscripts permits of development somewhat on the lines of that of books. But as no two collections are ever alike, each keeper must necessarily devise a system of classification suitable to the conditions under which he is working. An alphabetical designation may prove convenient, or else, as is often done, some special distinctive symbol may be utilized to characterize the individual collections.

The enumeration of the pieces may be by series or may embrace the collection as a whole. The latter mode has much to recommend it, in that it gives a convenient means of reference in supplement to the alphabetical or special designation. For each piece is thus given an individuality of its own and at the same time a definite place in the collection.

In the shelving and storing of manuscripts too great care cannot be exercised. They should of course be put in a fireproof vault or chamber, or where the building is fireproof in a section or department by themselves. As an extra precaution against dust and other destructive processes, they should be kept under glass or in dust-proof drawers, and always under lock and key.

### CATALOGING.

In cataloging some distinctive mark or symbol must be used to indicate at a glance that the reference is to a volume or a document in the manuscript department. For this purpose the ordinary mss. symbol will answer as well as any other. The cards should be kept separated from the book-cards in order that the distinction may be all the more marked. As the collections are so entirely different from the others in the library there is no need to complicate matters by distributing the manuscript cards among the other cards.

The title upon the card should consist of the name of the collection of which the document forms a part. If the document be a letter, as is often the case, there should follow the name of the writer and the name of the person to whom the letter is addressed, with the date and place of writing. Then should come a description of the size and the number of pages. If in a foreign language, the language should be indicated, as also the character of the material upon which the manuscript is written. If a signed letter or an autograph letter, the commonly used abbreviation L. S. or A. L. S. should be added. The cross-references should be to the name of the writer and that of the recipient.

In the case of literary or scientific manuscripts of considerable bulk (most often of books already published) the ordinary method of book cataloging with the manuscript department symbol added may be resorted to. In the margin of the card should be put the designation of the series with the number of the document, and as well, if the document cataloged be one in a large number of volumes of that series, the number of the volume and the page on which it may be found, when the latter is necessary.

### EXHIBITION.

No part of the care of manuscripts is more interesting and at the same time more valuable from the point of view of attracting gifts and deposits than that of their exhibition. The glass cases to be used for this purpose should be specially designed and constructed to meet the conditions of light and size, etc., of the exhibition-room. But too little attention has been paid to this important branch of the care of manuscripts. And by reason of the special knowledge required in order that manuscripts may be exhibited to the best advantage, the question of their installation should not be entered upon until after careful consultation with museum experts. For the many points of advantageous light, of height, and depth, and width of the cases, can best be looked after by those who have been specially trained for this work.

Whenever manuscripts are exhibited they

should be accompanied by carefully-prepared labels printed on cards and in a clearly legible type.

CALENDARING.

With his collections well bound and cared for, no keeper should rest satisfied until a calendar of them, at least, is in print. This holds particularly true in our country and of the manuscripts relating to its history. Its vast extent and the consequent wide distribution of collections makes it impossible that the historical student can have access to more than a small portion of those he desires to consult. If anything can be accomplished, therefore, by this means, to lighten his labors and enable him to perfect his work, it should be done.

The calendar form need not be adhered to too vigorously, for the dull page may occasionally be enlivened by a brief quotation from an important manuscript. A few words thus taken from the original document often express the idea it is desired to convey far better than an abstract. Nor will the calendar be complete unless the language in which the manuscript is written and its size and number of pages be indicated. For convenience in reference to the original the designating mark belonging to the manuscript should be appended. Nor should an index be overlooked.

CONCLUSION.

None but persons known to the one in charge of the manuscripts, or those who come to him well accredited, should be permitted to have access to them. And if copies are allowed to be made, it were best that by reason of the carelessness of some, all be put to a slight inconvenience, and that no ink be allowed to be used.

When it is known that collections are thus carefully guarded and preserved in so painstaking a manner, their increase will result from the diffusion of this information. For persons who have manuscripts to dispose of, and who desire to give or deposit them where they will be put beyond the range of injury, will naturally give them into the care of such institutions as best care for them, as best exhibit them, and where they can be made of the greatest use by the greatest number.

# NOTES ON THE GOVERNMENT AND CONTROL OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

BY GEORGE WILLIAM HARRIS, LIBRARIAN OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

I DO not design to make an extended report on this subject, but rather some brief remarks that may serve as a means of promoting discussion. Accordingly, I will not attempt to trace the great development in college libraries that has taken place in the last 30 years, or the influence that development has had upon the methods of government and control. Neither have I any general theory for the management and control of college libraries. I simply purpose to take the college library as it is to-day, and ask you to bear in mind the fact that primarily and chiefly the college library is intended for the use and convenience of the professors and students of the college with which it is connected. However desirable and praiseworthy it may be to open wide its doors to the general public and to give free access to books, such access and such use of the college library by the public must be considered as a matter of favor and courtesy, to be granted only in so far as it does not interfere with the convenience of those who are primarily entitled to the use of the library.

As I said, I have no general theory to propose. What I do propose to lay before you is simply the concrete example of the method of government and control which is in force at the library of Cornell University. I do not think I can bring the matter before you in any better way than by quoting that section of the statutes of Cornell University which deals with the university library. The section is as follows:

"1. The general care and supervision of the University Library is entrusted to a Library Council. This council consists of the president of the University, who shall be *ex officio* chairman of the council, and librarian, or, in his absence, the acting librarian, and five elected members, one of whom shall be elected by the executive committee and four by the

general faculty. The election of members shall take place annually as near the beginning of the collegiate year as may be practicable. Persons elected shall hold office till their successors are chosen.

"2. For the election of members from the faculty, that body shall be divided into two groups, and each group at the first election after the adoption of this statute shall elect two members, one of whom shall hold office for one year and one for two years, the term of each being determined by lot. Each year thereafter one member shall be elected annually by each group for two years.

"3. The two groups for the election of members shall be constituted as follows, viz.: 1. the group of science; 2. the group of letters. The group of science for the purposes of this act shall be deemed to include those members of the general faculty who give instruction in the departments of agriculture, architecture, civil engineering, mechanical and electrical engineering, mathematics, physics, chemistry, physical culture, military tactics, and the several branches of natural history. The group of letters shall be deemed to include those members of the faculty who give instruction in the departments of the several languages, of history and political science, and of philosophy and ethics. In each of the groups the election shall be by ballot, and the result of the ballot shall be communicated to the executive committee by the secretary of the faculty. In case a member of the faculty should be a member of both groups, he may choose the group in which he will act, and he may vote and be voted for in that group and not in the other.

"4. It shall be the duty of the Library Council to apportion the book funds between the various departments of instruction as may best accord with the interests of the University, and to recommend and submit to the trustees for their approval all questions pertaining to the apportionment of the funds, binding, cataloguing, and in general, to all accommodations, arrangements and rules for the administration of the library. After the apportionment of the book funds each year shall have been approved by the executive committee, the treasurer shall be authorized, unless otherwise instructed, to purchase books approved by the council, not exceeding the amount of the appropriation; but no subordinate shall be employed, salaries paid, or expenses of any kind incurred which shall not first have been approved by the executive committee, and after an appropriation duly made by them. All business of a financial character shall be transacted through the treasurer of the University.

"5. The duties of the librarian shall be to take charge of the internal administration of the library, and, with his subordinates, to keep it in complete working order for the use of professors, students, and others entitled to it; to conduct its correspondence; to make an annual report to the president of its condition, and of all additions to it; and to perform such other duties as may be imposed upon him from time to time by the trustees.

"6. The librarian and president have power to approve orders, signed by the professors at the head of the departments, for ordinary working books, but shall refer to the council all orders for costly or otherwise exceptional books."

In regard to the election of members of the council from the faculty, the original statute provided the faculty should be divided into four groups and each group should elect a member each year; natural and physical science and technical science forming the two groups of what is now the group of science: philology and literature one group, and history and political science and philosophy the other. The result of that plan was that there was no continuity in the council. Every year, as a rule, four new members were elected by the faculty in these groups. These came into the council quite new to the work, and it involved some loss of time in explaining to them what had been the principles governing the action of the council in the past. So this modification was made, the faculty was divided into two groups, and members elected hold office for two years, one member for each group being elected in alternate years. By that means we do attain a certain continuity in the policy of the council.

This council is a representative body; the trustees of the university are represented by one member elected from their number, and by the president of the university, who is, *ex officio* a member of the board of trustees. The faculty are represented by four members, and the library is represented by the librarian. You will perceive that while the immediate care and management of the library affairs is entrusted to the library council, all their action is subject to the approval of the executive committee of the board of trustees, the board of trustees being supreme authority in all matters of university administration, and the university trustees holding the strings of the purse.

One of the principal functions of the library council is to apportion the book funds among the various departments. In 1891 a plan of distribution of the book fund was adopted by the council, based upon the principle of giving recognition, in the general list of departments, to all subjects taught, and adding a few subjects not thus cared for; thus recognizing all

subjects by a small appropriation, and yet maintaining the principle of keeping the expenditure for this list within about one-third of the total expenditure. The need for books, however, is not in proportion to the officers of instruction, nor is it possible to state justly the relative importance of subjects to each other. Weak or neglected departments must be treated on different grounds from some others. Therefore it was believed that this could be best managed by leaving the reserve fund large, to be assigned at the wisdom of the council to the departments making the strongest requests. It was resolved that this system should be explained by a statement sent to each officer at the beginning of the year, and that no grants should be made from the reserve fund before November 15 of each year. The funds at the disposal of the council for the purchase of books and periodicals amount to about $15,000 or $16,000 a year. For the year 1896–97 the sum available was $16,729 as the income of the Sage Endowment Fund for the increase of the library. For this year the sum distributed among the departments is $5675. The sum assigned to the periodical list for the current year was increased from $2800 to a sum not to exceed $3000. Then in recognition of the need of supplementing the grants to specific departments by a fund from which purchases of works not properly falling within any one of these departments, but important and necessary for the general usefulness and symmetrical development of the library might be made, it was voted that a discretionary fund of $1000 be placed at the disposition of the librarian for the purchase of such works. Another fund of $1000 was placed at the disposition of the librarian for the purpose of filling up incomplete sets of periodicals, which, in a new library which has reached its 25th or 26th year, are considerable in number. After making these various appropriations there remained at the disposal of the council a reserve fund of $6074 for strengthening weak or neglected departments.

The first meeting of the council in the year is held usually about the beginning of October, but by this provision no grants are made from the reserve fund before the 15th of November, in order that the departments may look over the ground and see what their needs are for the year and present their statement to the council. And in that way no one department is likely to get an advantage over another.

Worth noting is another modification introduced after the original statute was passed. The original statute provided the list of works approved by the council should also be submitted to the trustees. That was done once, but the trustees said: "We know nothing about these lists; we cannot judge; if the council approves them that is sufficient." So it was modified by providing in the statute that, after the council had apportioned these funds and that apportionment had been approved by the executive committee, the treasurer was authorized to purchase books approved by the council. Then at first, the council thought it wise to look over the list of books submitted by the various departments, but that was soon found to be a laborious undertaking which consumed a great deal of time; so that was modified by the insertion of the provision that orders from the heads of departments for books might be approved by the president and librarian and that was sufficient for ordinary books. Exceptional cases arise. For instance, I have one in mind where the head of a department asked for the purchase of 50 copies of a text-book for reference for a class. That I considered not an ordinary work, and it was referred to the council and promptly disallowed. Very few cases of that sort have occurred.

The relations of the librarian with the council have always been of the pleasantest and most cordial character, and any matter in reason which the librarian recommends is pretty sure to meet with the approval and support of the council. And in dealing with the board of trustees, and especially with regard to questions which involve expenditures of money, it is a great help and a satisfaction for the librarian to be able to go to the trustees with a report which has the endorsement and approval of the library council which contains representatives from the board of trustees itself as well as members of the faculty.

So far as the appointment of subordinates is concerned, in my experience I have been left a perfectly free hand and have made my own selections, and those selections have always been approved and ratified by the council and by the trustees. The system certainly has this merit: that it works smoothly and satisfactorily, and has now been in use for 16 or 17 years.

# THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON A CATALOG OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.*

BY CYRUS ADLER, LIBRARIAN OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

THERE was held in London last summer, from the 14th to the 17th of July, a conference known as the International Bibliographical Conference. I am sorry that I cannot speak of that meeting from personal knowledge, as I was not present. In the preparation of this statement I have had to aid me the two official publications of the conference together with all the antecedent documents. I have also had some personal information from Dr. Bilings and Professor Newcomb, the gentlemen who represented the United States at the conference, and I have had access to the official files of the Smithsonian Institution.

Before taking up the question itself, it may be well to say a word or two in regard to the history of indexing scientific literature. It is no small satisfaction to us that the first impulse toward this work came from the United States. In 1854 or 1855 Professor Henry, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, suggested such a scheme to the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Association appointed for its consideration a committee consisting entirely of fellows of the Royal Society. Ten years afterwards the Royal Society took up the cataloging of scientific papers from the year 1800. You know that the result of this work has been 11 splendid volumes, giving a catalog or index by authors only, and including only papers in periodicals and transactions of learned societies. These volumes have been much criticised for what they do not do, but they are very helpful for what they do.

In March, 1894, the Royal Society issued a circular addressed to learned societies all over the world, calling attention to the fact that this catalog was a costly piece of work, that it was only an author catalog, and that it was admittedly incomplete. The development of scientific literature had been so great that some better arrangement was needed, and the president and council appointed a committee to consider the subject and report on the feasibility of such a catalog being compiled through international co-operation. The correspondence which resulted was favorable, American institutions being most cordial. The councils of the various universities in this country responded favorably, and many of our scientific men and some librarians made suggestions to the Royal Society through the medium of the journals. There was an interesting discussion in *Science* on the subject, in which Dr. Billings, the late Dr. Goode, and others took part. There was a similar discussion in *Nature*, and in the *Library Journal*. The committee reported to the Royal Society that they thought the plan feasible, and the Royal Society moved the British government to call an international convention. In the United States the course of action was for the Secretary of State to refer the matter to the Smithsonian Institution. The secretary of the Institution reported that he thought the matter of great moment, recommended that the government of the United States take part, and suggested that Dr. Billings and Professor Newcomb be named to represent the government on that occasion. This suggestion was adopted, and brings us down to the conference proper. I will name the countries taking part: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland United Kingdom, United States, Cape Colony, Canada, India, Natal New South Wales, New Zealand, and Queensland. You will notice in this list that, with the exception of Canada, the only country on the American continent represented besides the United States is Mexico; that is important, because it may result in the necessity of the United States taking a very active part in the matter.

The verbatim report of the proceedings of the conference is most interesting. There were three secretaries; one for French, one for German, and one for English, and those three languages were used interchangeably, with sometimes one delegate speaking, now in one language and now in another. The position of

* A fuller account will be found in *Science*, Aug. 6, 1897.

the Royal Society was stated at the outset by Prof. Armstrong, who said that the society had felt for a number of years that it was not doing enough to supply the needs of scientific workers; that the production of catalogs arranged only according to authors' names was altogether insufficient, and it was essential that much more should be done, and that the work should be done much more quickly. A number of questions were raised, such as whether a vote should be taken by nations or not. That question created a good deal of discussion. One of the matters that was bound to come up was the relation of the Belgian Bibliographical Bureau to this movement. Very early in the course of the discussion the Belgian representatives presented a joint note, setting forth what the Belgian Bibliographical Bureau had done. The reception accorded it was not enthusiastic. Reading between the lines, I should say that the conference practically decided not to avail itself of the Belgian bureau or of the Belgian system, though there is, perhaps, a possibility that at some future time these two movements may be united.

One of the questions which created a great deal of discussion and interest was regarding the division of science: first, the division of science into pure and applied, and it being practically settled that the applied sciences were to be excluded, the further question of what sort of classification of science should be made. One very acute remark was made by a delegate who said: "If you make a hard and fast division of pure physics and pure chemistry, you will miss the most interesting books and papers published, because it is just between physics and chemistry that the most important discoveries are now being made." Another interesting subject was the definition of what the catalog should include. It was originally proposed that the catalog should comprise all published original contributions to science, whether appearing in periodicals or in publications of societies or as independent pamphlets, memoirs, or books. That proposition practically prevailed, so that the future catalog will differ from the past work of the Royal Society by including independent books and memoirs. Much time was spent on the question of the method getting these independent publications. Several delegates said while it would be easy enough to arrange for the exchange of the transactions of learned societies, it would not be possible to get independent books and memoirs. That statement brought out a discussion which showed that some countries do not make compulsory any deposit of books registered for copyright, and it is possible that one of the outcomes of this conference may be an agitation in such countries which will bring about the compulsory deposit of books, and therefore enable persons who have access to the national libraries to see all the books. If I remember rightly, so important a state as Saxony, which includes Leipsic, does not require deposits of books for copyright.

The conference finally adopted a scheme something as follows: In preparing the catalog regard shall be had in the first instance to the requirements of scientific investigators, to the end that they may find most easily what is published concerning any particular subject. The administration of the catalog is to be entrusted to a representative body called the International Council. The final editing and publication of the catalog is to be entrusted to an organization called the Central International Bureau, under the direction of the International Council. Any country which shall declare its willingness to undertake the task shall be entrusted with the duty of collecting and provisionally classifying and transmitting to the Central Bureau, according to the rules laid down, all the entries belonging to the scientific works of that country. In indexing according to subject-matter regard shall be had not only to the title of the paper or book, but also to the nature of the contents. In judging whether a publication shall be considered a contribution to science, regard shall be had to its contents, irrespective of the channel through which it is published. This subject, by the way, brought out a very interesting discussion and the expression of some extremely liberal views on the part of more than one member. The German delegates, for instance, pointed out that such a journal as the *Allgemeine Zeitung* often contained original articles. We know that in this country important scientific articles appear in our popular magazines and sometimes even in our newspapers.

Another provision is that the Central Bureau shall issue a catalog in the form of slips or cards, the details of the cards to be hereafter determined, and the issue to take place as

promptly as possible. Cards corresponding to any one or more branches of sciences, or to sections of such science, shall be supplied separately and under the direction of the Central Bureau. The Central Bureau shall also issue a catalog in book form from time to time, the entries being classified according to the rules to be hereafter determined ; that the issue in book form shall be in parts corresponding to the several branches of the science, the several parts being supplied separately at the discretion and under the direction of the Central Bureau. The Central Bureau is to be located in London. There was absolute unanimity on that point.

The discussion on the classification of science was very interesting and important, and I expect to give a rather full account of that shortly in *Science*.*

The conference being unable to accept any of the systems of classification recently proposed, refers the choice of a system to the committee on organization. That decision was the result of an interesting discussion. It was a substitute for the original proposition that the Dewey system be not adopted as it stands. The Belgian representatives were the supporters of the Dewey system. The vote on this was unanimous, but the Belgians did not vote, and had the fact they did not vote recorded. The general considerations which prompted this conclusion were that the conference was not studying the question of the usefulness of any given system of placing books on shelves. That they thought outside of their province. They assert by this resolution, most positively, that the system of classification on shelves has no real relation to the system of classification in a scientific catalog.

English was adopted as the language of the catalog, and that with unanimity. An Austrian delegate, when some slight objection was raised, rose and said that English was a language now so widespread that it might be said to be more understood than any other, and however much pride one might have in his nationality, he must have a greater interest in the general welfare of mankind.

The beginning of the catalog was fixed for January 1, 1900, and it was stated as desirable that the Royal Society should be informed of the adherence of the different countries by 1897 or 1898. It is understood that the International Council will provide for the cataloging of the literature of such countries as are not willing to undertake the work themselves.

When the conference adjourned the delegates departed to their homes and made reports to their governments. In the United States a report was presented by Dr. Billings and Professor Newcomb to the Secretary of State. That report was presented on October 15, 1896. On the next day the Secretary of State referred it to the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution for his advice, together with a request for a statement of the probable cost to the United States of entering into this scheme. This was estimated to be about $10,000 a year, and a letter to this effect was sent to the Secretary of State, who transmitted it, together with the documents, to both houses of Congress. These papers were laid before Congress December 17, 1896, but it was then too late to get any action by the last Congress, nor, indeed, was there real necessity for doing so. I understand that between this time and January 1, 1898, there should be made to the Royal Society an expression of the willingness of this country to adhere to the scheme, and that for the year 1899–1900 some appropriation should be made to enable the United States government to take its share of the work.

In conclusion, I would say that this appears to me to be the most important matter that can possibly be undertaken for scientific men, and I believe it also to be the largest co-operative scheme of indexing ever set on foot. I think, too, we should be gratified by the honorable part thus far taken by the United States.

* *See Science*, Aug. 6, 1897.

# INDEX PROSPECTS AND POSSIBILITIES.

BY WILLIAM I. FLETCHER, LIBRARIAN AMHERST COLLEGE.

IN speaking of the prospects and possibilities in index work — I mean, of course, co-operative work in the advancement of the cause of indexing — I do not wish to have it regarded as presented at all as a matter of enthusiastic anticipation; nor as the riding of a rose-colored hobby; but rather as a matter of calculation and estimation of real and reasonable probabilities.

By way of introduction, I wish to speak for a moment of this general idea of co-operative work among libraries. I have been closely connected with it now for a long while, and it has been constantly brought to my notice that it excites some suspicion and question among some of our best and ablest librarians. Such suspicion is reasonable, and I have never been at all surprised by it. In conversation recently with Dr. Billings he expressed, as Dr. Poole used to express, that rather conservative view as to this co-operative library work. It is a question of whether our libraries are to be run, each one as part of a great machine; whether there is to be for this and that a great central bureau, with the individual library and librarians left to be nothing but a little part of a great machine. That is a crude and perhaps not very fair way of stating this suspicion, but I think it may answer the purpose. I do not think any one shares this general view more than I, or has more decided views on the subject. For you will find in the *Library Journal* that I said, quite a number of years ago at one of our meetings, that it seemed as if there was a disposition to drive from libraries the genius of learning and culture and substitute a set of cog-wheels [*L. J.*, 11 : 211].

Making all the allowance that need be made for the doubtfulness of the work of bringing libraries into co-operation, I am not prepared to admit this as any argument against what we have done or are trying to do along these lines. That view of the matter suggested the danger that our libraries might be deprived of that atmosphere of literary and bibliographic culture for which no substitute can be furnished in making them what they ought to be as ministers of literature to the public. It seems to me any such objection is hardly worth considering. Supposing that all the work we now do in our libraries, as cataloging in all its branches and indexing, be taken away; does it not remain true that there would be an abundance of work left for every librarian and every assistant in providing for the individual wants, the temporary and immediate wants of users of the library? It seems to me there is an opening left to meet all the demands for the culture of the librarian and assistants and to give the library the atmosphere of an individual institution of learning.

Coming to the question of the prospects and the possibilities of this work as it stands now, I would naturally speak first of "Poole's index," which was the first of these co-operative index undertakings, and I take pleasure in saying that I have proof pages nearly half way through the five-year supplement for the years 1892 to 1896 inclusive, up to the first of January, 1897.

As to the "A. L. A. index," I would like to say frankly that I was never at all satisfied with the "A. L. A. index" and have always felt apologetic towards it. But material is being collected for a supplement to that work, which may be published as a supplement, or the whole work may be made over into a new edition incorporating the old matter and the new. One feature intended to be made prominent in the new edition or supplement is to include in it all available reference lists, so that on turning to a subject the first thing seen would be a reference — perhaps printed in different type, so as to be at once recognized — to some place where a special list to that subject can be found. No adequate "A. L. A. index" can be made without a collection of such reference lists. That is to say, if you look in the index for Carlyle, for instance, you cannot expect to find in it any such work on Carlyle as in Anderson's bibliography. The best treatment, perhaps, of Carlyle for such an index would be to say *See* Anderson's bibliography. The book can hardly go into the printer's hands much inside of a year, and it will, of course, incorporate all the references

that have been made in the second portion of the "Annual literary index" since the "A. L. A. index" was first published.

It is a little doubtful as to where we pass from prospects to possibilities. What I have been speaking of is fairly within reach. There is also a project before us for an international catalog of scientific papers, and there is the scheme of which Dr. Billings is to speak. I wish, however, to refer to a matter which came to my notice only the other day. On my visit to the Commercial Museums in Philadelphia, I found there a card catalog index for the trade journals during the last two years. It is made on standard size cards and kept in a case already numbering some hundreds of drawers. It illustrates this general subject of the need of co-operation when we find in the city of Philadelphia, unknown to nearly all the librarians in the country, a work in the same direction as ours by persons who knew little if anything of our attempts.

I can take but a moment to refer to the prospects as to the indexing of portraits. It is pleasant to speak here of the extended work already done in that direction by Mr. Bunford Samuel, of the Ridgway Branch Library. He has entered heartily into the co-operative plan, furnishing us his material without any compensation to himself for the great labor that he has expended upon it. His material is being placed on cards prepared under the direction of Mr. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, who has assumed editorial charge of the portrait index. As most of you have read in the *Library Journal*, much additional work is being done and it is planned to make the index cover a pretty complete list of books containing good collected portraits.

You will see that though I undertook to speak of index prospects and possibilities, these are all prospects, and I will, with your permission, let the possibilities be omitted, and ask you to understand that I prefer to speak of accomplished facts and facts that are in a fair way to be accomplished.

## SOME HERESIES ABOUT CATALOGING.

BY DR. G. E. WIRE, EVANSTON, ILL.

THE definition of a catalog, according to the dictionary, is "an orderly arrangement of titles." Passing to the definition of its purpose, we ask: What is a catalog for? It is supposed to be for the purpose of helping to find information. We hope, or are supposed to hope, that it will help people to find books. But does it? It is only a means to an end, and no reader is foolish enough to waste his time over a catalog if he can get his books in any easier way. It is of no earthly use to suppose that a reader is going to worship your catalog for your glorification. And yet that is the idea that some catalogers have. I heard one of this kind say once: "We must go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in." It is more likely that that particular catalog would compel the reader to go out, and that right speedily.

Of what use is a catalog filled with *Sees*, *See alsos*, and analyticals? These only aggravate the reader. What he wants is *information*, not snubs and invitations to look elsewhere. It is cold comfort to come up against this item: Birds. *See* Ornithology. Why not put birds under birds? No wonder readers are disappointed and the librarian blamed — the latter rightly. It is not to be supposed that persons will poke over the cards of a catalog for the fun of chasing the so elusive entries from one place to another. What they want is their *books*, and if by some subtle process of mental telepathy these could be handed them the minute they came within the door, that would be all they wanted. It is no use to suppose that fiction habitués will pore over a card catalog. *Print* some sort of a finding list for them as soon as possible.

About subjects: Avoid those miserable entries taken from some word or words on the title-page. Use a double subject frequently, as Fractures and dislocations. I direct always that in cases where a close relationship does not occur between words found on a title-page that two cards or more, as the case may be, be made for the work. These should be simply

made. Time and strength should not be sacrificed to absolute mathematical accuracy in all headings of a similar class. Suppose there are slight differences? Let them go, and put in your time on something more valuable. I have known some examples of egregious blunders. One of these concerned a reprint of one of the Cramoisy Jesuit Relations. In checking up an auction catalog I came to an item which I knew was a reprint of a Jesuit letter. In looking the matter up in our card catalog I found that according to the card it appeared that we had a genuine Jesuit relation. You know that these are very rare, and I knew that we had no genuine one in the library, but for certainty went to the shelves and got the book indicated. The title-page read correctly, and the cataloger had faithfully followed rules and copied it *literatim*, but I knew from the paper, type, and general appearance, that the book was a reprint, and, turning the leaf, found that it had been reproduced at the charges of Mr. Lenox, of New York. I called the attention of the cataloger to it and stated the case. The card was removed and consulted upon, but there was no provision in the rules for a note on the bottom of the card simply stating that it was a reprint, and it finally found its way back to the cabinet as false and misleading as before. Now this was a flat lie, and an example of what cataloging should not be.

About rules: Be not bound to them, but after getting the *principle*, make variations to fit the case. The main thing is to get the *idea* of cataloging — what it is for — and then adapt your rules to the size and scope of your library, to the grasp of your public, and, if necessary, to the minds of your attendants.

## AN ELEMENTARY TALK ON CHARGING SYSTEMS.

BY HELEN G. SHELDON, DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY.

IT is my purpose to-day to speak to those members of the A. L. A. who have neither studied the subject of charging systems nor had much experience in their manipulation. In so doing my words cannot fail to be to many as a tale that has been many times told. Probably foreseeing this, our chairman wrote to me: "We want original ideas." My dear Mr. Chairman and ladies and gentlemen, to supply *anything whatever* from a field which has never lain fallow, but has, on the contrary, yielded yearly to the *Library Journal* and other storehouses crop after crop of value, is almost more than common clay can do.

To the beginner in library science I would therefore say that most original thing, "read the *Library Journal*." Everything which is ever likely to be said has already there been said, and all the most approved systems have been described. Read the *Journal*, then, always remembering that the ledger, indicator, and dummy systems are relics of the dark ages, and bearing in mind that the kind of library should influence one in the selection of a charging system, that one suited to a college library is not the one for a public library with a large circulation, and that it is better to adopt a system to which your library will grow than one which it will outgrow.

A few small points, not new, but which help to make a charging system what it should be, may be suggested here.

(1) If for any reason a reader is debarred the use of the library, place among the registration blanks in front of his blank, a yellow card — (the initiated will recognize the criticism card). On the top line write his name and below the reason for the withdrawal of his privilege.

(2) When pasting a pocket in a book, put it on the last page of the book, not on the cover, as continued stamping of the cover loosens the binding.

(3) Write the book number on the pocket. This obviates the necessity of turning the book to look at the book-plate.

(4) Put a, b, c, etc., at the left of the call number, instead of the usual cop. 1, cop. 2, etc. It is easier, shorter, and answers the same purpose.

(5) Stamp on the reader's card, etc., the date when the book is due; *not*, as is often done, the date of issue.

(6) If your circulation is small enough to admit of it, put the book number, as well as the date, on the reader's card. It is often of use.

(7) Fasten a reader's call slip to his card with a utility paper slip, or some other device. This prevents its loss.

(8) If your staff of charging clerks is large, incorporate an initial of each clerk in his dating-stamp. Errors can thus be traced and it makes clerks careful.

(9) If you put the reader's card in the pocket of the book when the book card is taken out, this will save stamping the date on the pocket, since it always appears on the reader's card. Of course this necessitates discharging a book as soon as it comes in, and could not be done if the circulation were large.

(10) If your collection of books is not too small, follow the example of most of your fellow-librarians and use the two-book system.

I have appended to this paper a list of the articles on charging systems which have appeared since Mr. Carr's list, printed in the *Library Journal* in 1889; I shall be glad to answer any questions, and we are prepared to charge and discharge books by four different systems as follows:

1. The Philadelphia Free Library system, which is a slight modification of the famous Newark system, the one generally accepted as the best for a large public library.

2. The Drexel Institute charging system, which is similar to that used in most college libraries.

3. The N. E. Browne system, the newest development in charging systems, and one bound to grow in favor, because by it books can be charged by merely stamping a date.

4. The Albany Y. W. C. A. system, a temporary slip system in which slips of various colors are used to indicate different days of the week, and which is suited to a very small library.

REFERENCE LIST ON CHARGING SYSTEMS.

1. Carr, H: J. Report on charging systems. *Lib. j.* 14: 203–214 (1889).
(Historical treatment of charging systems and statistics of their use in America, with a bibliography of the subject, 1876–1888.)

2. Schwartz, J. Apprentices' Library charging system. *Lib. j.* 14: 468–469 (1889).

3. Davis, O. S. Y. M. C. A. Library, Albany, charging system. *Lib. j.* 16: 232 (1891).

4. Cutler, M. S. Charging systems. (*In* Impressions in foreign libraries.) *Lib. j.* 16: c51 (1891).

5. Circular of the Board of Library Commissioners, state of New Hampshire. *Lib. j.* 18: 42 (1893).
(Circular letter relating to library methods, copies of which were sent to the trustees of each library in N. H. Recommends slip-charging system and gives specific directions for using it.)

6. Jones, G: M. Delivery-desk difficulties. *Lib. j.* 18: 86 (1893).
(Synopsis of a paper delivered before the Mass. Lib. Club.)

7. Plummer, M. W. Loan systems. (*See* A. L. A. World's Lib. Congress Papers, 1893, p. 898–906.)
(Gives advantages and disadvantages of the ledger, temporary slip, card, dummy and indicator systems.)
An abstract of this paper also appeared in *Lib. j.*, 18: 242–246 (1893).

8. Fletcher, W: I. Public libraries in America (1894), p. 66.

9. Plummer, M. W. Hints to small libraries (1894), p. 32–41.
(Describes the ordinary double-entry charging system, suggesting several modifications for varying conditions.)

10. Dana, J: C. Public library handbook (1895), p. 46–90.
(Gives explicit directions as to a charging clerk's duties, and warns of many points which long experience has shown need especial care.)

12. Bolton, C: K. Charging systems and statistics. *Lib. j.* 19: 225–226 (1894).
(A plea for the single-entry system, at the sacrifice of foolish statistics, since all necessary questions can be answered by that system.)

13. Browne, N. E. Another charging system. *Lib. j.* 20: 168 (1895).
(Reader's *pocket* instead of reader's card used.)
For discussion of this system, *see Lib. j.*, 21: c127–128 and p. 300.

14. Jones, G. M. Cards for the "Two-book" system. *Lib. j.* 20: 168–172 (1895).
(Letters from prominent librarians, giving usage in their libraries. No definite conclusion as to the best method is arrived at.)

15. Hill, F. P. Preparing a book for issue; and charging systems. *Lib. j.* 21: c51–56 (1896).
(Contains also a description of the Newark charging system, il. by sample blanks.)
For discussion following this paper, *see Lib. j.*, 21: c147–149.

16. A. L. A. Primer. Charging system. *Pub. libs.*, v. 1, p. 79–80 (1896).

17. Pennock, B. W. The Browne charging system. *Lib. j.* 22: 294–296 (1897).

# REFERENCE WORK.

BY ELEANOR B. WOODRUFF, PRATT INSTITUTE FREE LIBRARY, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

THE aim of the reference department is, as you all know, to afford to readers the simplest, easiest, and quickest access to the resources of the library on any subject in which they may be interested or desire information. This may be accomplished by either introducing the inquirer directly to the books where his questions will be answered, or helping him to an understanding of the mysteries of the catalog, or explaining the use of indexes, bibliographies, and other library tools, or compiling lists for him — in short, by doing anything and everything which will conduce to getting him the right book at the right moment.

In a library where this work must be performed with a very limited number of books, the importance of the selection of the books and the skill of the attendant in handling them can hardly be overestimated.

Whether or no the books will do all the work of which they are capable, will depend upon the expertness of the attendant. The complete knowledge of the books requisite for a ready and effective handling can be gained only by long experience in their use, but as aids toward acquiring this familiarity with the books I would suggest a study of what they have to say of themselves, their scope and limitations as set forth in the preface or introduction, the title-page, or the table of contents. If, for example, the title-page of a biographical dictionary claims to treat only of English contemporaries, you may be saved the time and trouble of searching that book for a German who died in the 18th century. Where definite information cannot be drawn from these sources, test the book for yourselves, propose questions that have been brought in or that you may originate, look up subjects under various headings, observe what departments of knowledge are most fully and satisfactorily treated, notice whether there are illustrations, and whether these are explanatory or merely ornamental. Before you are thoroughly familiar with a work, and sometimes after you think you know it pretty well, make free use of the index. Even though it seem to put you one step farther from the matter you seek, it will often prove the shortest way in the end. In the index you will frequently find names and subjects not brought out in the body of the work, and by its help will avoid the risk of material evading you because the particular heading used did not suggest itself.

In addition to the usual reference-books, by all means have the sets of bound periodicals stacked in the reference-room. This plan has been tried for years in the Pratt Institute Library and has proved most satisfactory in its working. Even should loss or injury occur in a few cases, it is not too great a price to pay for the increased usefulness of the books. When there is free access to the shelves, very little assistance from the person in charge will enable visitors to use the indexes compiled by Dr. Poole, Mr. Fletcher, and the Cleveland Library, and with these as guides, teachers and students, members of clubs and debating societies, scholars and newspaper reporters will be able to find for themselves the latest word of the best authority on their respective subjects.

Several of the magazines that every library is sure to possess — *Harper's Monthly*, the *Atlantic*, *Popular Science Monthly*, etc. — have published invaluable indexes of their own. The field covered is so much narrower that the work has gone deeper than is possible with the general indexes, and the same article appears under several headings with numerous cross-references, while portraits and engravings are also brought out.

From the nature of the case it is impossible for any index to be absolutely up to date. Not to be unprepared for requests for articles appearing in the interim, the reference librarian should spend a few moments each day in running through the periodicals, including newspapers.

With the multifarious duties that fall to the lot of each worker in a library, no one can afford the time for a thorough perusal of the papers, but if he take time for nothing more than a glance at the tables of contents and the headlines he will, by this means, keep posted

on what is going on in the world, will be able to anticipate the needs of the public, and, when some event of unusual importance or some happening of local interest directs the attention of the reading community in one direction, instead of being overwhelmed by a sudden and unexpected run on his resources, he will be prepared for the emergency and will have the satisfaction of referring the very first inquirer to a list already prepared and awaiting his use. Courses of local lectures, series of readings, the appearance of a noted musician, topics of discussion which are filling people's minds, the approach of a holiday, should all be heralded by the librarian with bulletins of references. The death of a great man may in the same way be made the occasion of calling attention to his work and what has been written concerning him. In the case of an author, a large demand for his books will almost inevitably follow as the result of a reading list of his works and biographies, critical essays, and poems to his memory.

Besides these lists which the librarian prepares without warning, and largely as a matter of self-defence, he should expect and invite requests from literary and study clubs for outlines of courses and lists of material on the subject selected for the winter's work.

In all list-making let the principle of selection be the prevailing rule. While every list should fairly represent the full resources of the library, do not, except in rare cases, for the sake of exhaustiveness, include material only indirectly bearing on the subject in hand. A really exhaustive list may be a satisfaction to the professional pride of the compiler, but it will generally produce disappointment to the reader in the present and distrust for the future. In compiling lists make use of every possible aid, your own catalog and finding lists, catalogs, lists, and bulletins of other libraries, annotated lists of books and bibliographies, and indexes to periodicals and general literature. Some libraries, however, make it the rule to exclude entries from magazines indexed by Poole as an unnecessary duplication of work. Some of the lists most useful for this work are the Philadelphia Mercantile Library bulletins, the Boston Public Library chronological index to historical fiction, the San Francisco Library annotated list of English prose fiction, the Providence Public Library monthly bulletins, and the bulletins published from time to time by Cornell University Library, the Boston and Salem public libraries. Among select lists of books, Bowker and Iles' "Reader's guide in economic, social and political science," Adams' "Manual of historical literature," Griswold's "Select list of novels and tales," Sargent's "Reading for the young," and the two lists recently prepared under the supervision of Mr. Iles and published by the A. L. A., the "Bibliography of fine arts," by Sturgis and Krehbiel, and the "List of books for girls and women and their clubs."

All lists, of course, are to be filed in some convenient way, and kept carefully up to date by the systematic addition of items found in your running through magazines and new books. An alphabetical list of lists will greatly facilitate reference to the lists on hand.

All material, in fact, which has been found with difficulty and after long search should be recorded in some permanent form. Experience has shown that certain questions come around with the regularity of the seasons, and the references to them once found and noted are available for all time. A convenient form in which to keep such material not calculated to take shape as reading lists, is to enter it on cards (the backs of spoiled catalog cards will do), and to file them alphabetically in boxes. In this index, references are in place to all sorts of odds and ends of information that you pick up in your reading, or attract your attention in going through the magazines, clippings from newspapers, and items that no index, however complete, will bring out, which you will surely need and would otherwise be at a loss to know where to find.

In his desire to be of service to the eager searcher for knowledge, the reference librarian should not be satisfied with the posting of bulletins and directing visitors to sources of information on the shelves, but should be willing in certain cases to gather material on a given subject in one place where it may conveniently be consulted and different works weighed side by side. To carry this idea still further, it may be of service to a club doing serious work to have a small collection of books withdrawn from circulation and reserved for a time for their exclusive use. To have this plan work to advantage, the readers must do their small share of sending timely notice to the librarian, that he may search out the desired material or call in the books from circulation.

The famous dictum, "Speech was given to man to conceal thought," is often forcibly brought to mind by the ingenuity with which visitors to the reference-room succeed in hiding their desires behind their questions. And right here lies the opportunity for the exercise of one of the greatest gifts of the successful librarian —the ability by skilful questioning, without appearance of curiosity or impertinence, to extract from the vaguest, most general requests, a clear idea of what the inquirer really needs. This faculty — a facility in reducing large, abstract demands to concrete terms, as, for example, in resolving a request for a book that will tell everything about all kinds of birds into a demand for a book on the diseases of chickens; the sort of second sight that recognizes books under all sorts of indefinite, misleading descriptions, from the color of the covers or the positions on the shelves to the date when this particular person last used it, and readily interprets "that book of St. Anthony's on the American Eagle" to mean an article on the stars and stripes which appeared in *St. Nicholas* — stands in the equipment of a reference librarian only second in importance to the complete mastery of his tools. In fact, so important are the relations of the reference librarian to his public that I am almost prepared to put tact in meeting strangers and making them feel at home in the library, in knowing how far assistance will be a help and when it will become a bore, in impressing each visitor with personal interest in meeting his particular need, to put this, I repeat, in the same category which includes the largest possible knowledge of literature and of books about books, the broadest culture, a store of general information sometimes having no connection with books, and a memory that not only treasures up items of interest but instinctively pigeon-holes them ready to be called to light at a moment's notice. The demands of the work are great, but the interest of the work itself and the opportunities it affords of meeting people and seeing what interests them while helping them to satisfy their needs are sufficient compensation for all one may give out in energy and enthusiasm.

## LIBRARIANS' AIDS.

BY VIRGINIA R. DODGE, LIBRARIAN OF THE CEDAR RAPIDS (IA.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IN taking up the subject of librarians' aids, it is my aim to call attention to a "string of generalities," which some one has said "can be of no special use to anyone," to show that these same generalities comprise opportunities for all. The librarian must take his aids as they come, from the "four corners of the world,"

> "Not chaos-like, together crushed and bruised,
> But as a world, harmoniously confus'd,
> Where order in variety we see,
> And where, though all things differ, all agree."

The librarian draws his resources from the whole world. People, places, associations, books, magazines, stray scraps of information, all have their place among the librarian's tools; and each day with its meetings, its greetings, its continual rubbings, should make the librarian the richer in aids towards a means for the end. And it is of this gift of turning into gold all things he touches that I wish to speak.

Of all people the librarian has the greatest opportunity of knowing good and for doing good, because all avenues alike are open to him; he has the key to all knowledge; it passes through his hands for good or ill to be dispensed to its seekers. The librarian aware of his power and his weakness has made for himself this splendid Association, than which nothing could be of greater help, encouragement and inspiration; as a smaller part of the great whole comes the state association, with the aid to be gained by comparing methods and exchanging ideas. Through the state library commissions all sorts of help may be obtained, and their bureaus of information contain inexhaustible funds of advice and counsel, with an enthusiasm which does not flag even under the poser of a question how to arouse interest which has been long dead in a library; there might be a weakening of enthusiasm if, as in one case, the cause of dying had been traced to a little habit of the librarian, of closing up shop in order to attend baseball games.

To the teacher the librarian looks for many

helpful suggestions, and not least among these are the outlines of courses of study that supplementary reading lists may be prepared; and we hope soon to see the time when not only the teacher as an individual may make it easier for the library to get children into her storehouse of wisdom, but the school as a whole will recognize the expediency of sending children to the library, and will also prepare them in the use of short cuts to books — those reading and reference lists with which every library is more or less generously supplied.

Coming nearer home, the librarian ought to look upon his trustees as his greatest support. His trustees! I am reminded of many humorously pathetic instances — "humorous" because, in the words of a popular song, "the punishment did not fit the crime"; "pathetic," because of the added note that the librarian knew better, but his trustees overruled him. That sort of thing we are rapidly putting in the past, and I think it is mainly due to the American Library Association. For with a board of representative men and women who are made acquainted through library publications with the keen, active spirit which is dominating the library movement, the cry of old fogyism will be no more. Nor is it a case of "a little learning is a dangerous thing"; rather is it a case of nice adjustment; the librarian knows library methods and is imbued with library spirit; his trustees know the town to which he is called, can give him valuable hints about reaching the people, and can open the avenue toward local history and special collections, besides being keenly alive to the needs of the community, and ready to give the librarian the backing which at times is restful, at least.

Now we come to the assistant and the aid which comes to the librarian through her — I believe a foreign visitor described the American assistant as of the feminine gender. In writing of her some one has said, and rather aptly I fear, that the librarian's trials with her were probably "as water unto wine" compared to her trials with the librarian. To make the assistant what her name implies she should be a consistent part of the whole, and should be drilled to fill her post in the library accurately; it seems to me that this can best be done by apprenticeship; in the small library she serves directly under the librarian, and in the large library I would have apprentices in each department; in either case, by personal contact and by practical application, she learns methods and unconsciously acquires the spirit of the institution; she has time and means to perfect herself and to understand how given instructions are to be carried out before she is called upon officially to comply. Above all things, let her be trained gradually in the various departments through her apprenticeship before she is put in the position of assistant, so that when made assistant she may at any time temporarily fill any position; and in case of an absence or rush in one department, the work may go on smoothly.

For assistance in sympathetic co-operation from patrons in the library, everything depends upon the intelligence of the community, and anything that can raise its standard is of the greatest aid to the librarian. I would suggest, besides general university extension courses, and any other lectures of high standard to which the librarian should give his support, the advisability of introducing library courses in university extension, and I would make the movement as widespread as possible. This would eventually lift a great load from the librarian's shoulders. I refer to the amount of energy and tact which he must expend in explaining the pros and cons to the recently elected librarian who has to know it all in a day or two.

Coming to aids which are technically considered as the librarian's, is the advisability of joining clubs for the sake of their publications. This is especially valuable for local history, as in the Parkman Club of Wisconsin, which makes a study of northwestern history with especial reference to Wisconsin. Look into your own state and if there is a club which can help you, join it; begin at home and increase the circle outward as far as is expedient.

The joining of local clubs is, of course, a great aid in coming into closer relations with the townspeople, and also affords a greater opportunity of working up club programs and directing the reading of the clubs. This brings me to a short list which is not meant to be comprehensive but is merely suggestive and useful in opening the way to all sorts of hints, instructions, reference lists, and bibliographical aids. This will be most helpful as a start to save unnecessary work, and as the needs of the library become greater, and its resources increase, it will suggest more extensive aids.

First come those books with which we are all familiar, but which as old friends we are always glad to see, for they are rich in suggestion and their spirit is most helpful. I refer to Dana's "Public library handbook," published by Carson, Harper & Co., Denver, 1895, a little book which fills many needs. It has an annotated list of magazines which is helpful, and a list of books for schools, and under the subject of book selection reference is made to critical periodicals.

Miss Plummer's "Hints to small libraries," published by the Pratt Institute Free Library of Brooklyn, gives valuable suggestions in the organizing of a library and in its administration, and is of great value to librarians who have not had opportunity for training.

W. H. Wheatley's "How to catalogue a library," published by Armstrong in the "Book lover's library," gives the first principles of cataloging and a discussion of different cataloging rules; and Mr. Fletcher's "Public libraries in America," published by Roberts Bros. in 1895, gives a history of the library movement, details of library management, etc.

These books, together with the *Library Journal* and *Public Libraries*, contain the essentials of public library management, with lists and references leading to specialization.

As a beginning in school-work I suggest Channing and Hart's "Guide to the study of American history," published in Boston by Ginn, 1896, because we want to stimulate the interest in history, and first and foremost in American history. This book takes up methods, books, bibliography, and topics with references.

There are also lists of books which are of great aid in working with children, as:

Miss Hewins's "Selected list of books for boys and girls," Library Bureau, 1897, 10 c.

Leypoldt and Iles's "List of books for girls and women and their clubs," Library Bureau, 1895, 75 c. This contains a list, with full annotations, of 250 American, British, and Canadian authors.

The "Supplement to Sargent's 'Reading for the young,'" Library Bureau, 1896, $1.00. This includes books for 1890–95, and it contains a subject-index of the whole work.

There are many lists of books for children published by different libraries, which may be had for the asking; also in the "Regents' bulletin," no. 6, of the University of the State of New York, are valuable supplemental reading lists for schools.

Almost equal in interest to the work with the schools is that of getting a strong hold on the public through the local clubs, in getting as much of their work into the library as possible; not only in preparing their reference lists, but in being equipped to help in the preparation of their programs. To this end I would be on the lookout for outlines of club work such as are published in the Michigan State Library *Bulletin*, no. 1, which gives a list of club programs of Michigan. There were very valuable outlines published also in the annual report for 1894 of the New York State Library, extension department, under "Outlines of approved work in New York"; these have been printed separately in pamphlet form.

There are also outlines for club work published in the different magazines; some valuable ones have appeared in *The Arts*, *The Outlook*, *The Bookbuyer*, and *The Lotus*.

Also, the syllabi of courses in university extension are rich in suggestion; these are all toward the making of programs; after the programs are in form it is admissible to go through the list, making references for each meeting, and putting them on file, where the club people can freely consult them, and when the temporary use is over arranging them with the reference lists for future use.

For most of us it is necessary to work gradually up from one grade of fiction to a higher grade, and from that to a systematic study of literature, history, religion, science, or the arts. To this end we must have a comprehensive knowledge of what fiction contains. While there are many lists which are very helpful, we look forward with interest to one book which will be a comprehensive subject index to fiction.* There are lists of fiction published by different libraries which are easily obtained and very helpful, such as the excellent catalog of historical fiction published by the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, 1897.

There is a very valuable list of the books which first appeared in magazine form in the *Bulletin of Bibliography*, published by the Boston Book Co. This is by E. D. Tucker, is uniform with Poole, and refers by volume to serial

* "Comprehensive subject index to universal prose fiction," by Mrs. Zella Allen Dixson; to be published by Dodd, Mead & Co. in the fall of 1897.

issue. In a small library it is especially helpful to be able to find a story in magazines which could not be afforded in book form, and often it is gratifying to be able to duplicate a popular book; and it goes a long way toward making friends for the library.

The *Bulletin of Bibliography* brings us to another class of easily obtained aids in reference work: the bulletins published by different libraries are either free, as that of Salem, or cost a nominal sum, as the Providence bulletin, which is 50c. per year. They contain reference lists, bibliographical aids, etc., and often, as in that of Providence, publish quarterly, or at regular intervals, an index to all the reference lists which are published by different libraries. This is a great saving of time, for any reference list which is indexed may be had by asking the library which publishes it.

As to contemporary work in periodicals, if a small library cannot afford the "Cumulative index," it can do good work with the *Review of Reviews*.

These few suggestions are not meant in any way as iron-clad rules. But let the impression be, to use wisely and well the resources which are available to each, for if a few good things are made much of, others will be the more easily obtained, and there will never be the danger of helplessly waiting for a printed formula to apply to each emergency. As a warning against such apathy I quote a pathetic little verse which carries with it a strong moral:

> "The centipede was happy quite
> Until a toad for fun
> Said 'Pray which leg comes after which?'
> This worked her mind to such a pitch,
> She lay distracted in a ditch
> Considering how to run."

## BOOK SELECTION.

BY ELIZABETH P. ANDREWS, N. Y. STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL, ALBANY.

THE old definition of the library as a collection of books does not fully describe the modern library; we are learning to regard the library as something more than four walls enclosing a collection of books of all kinds and description, purchased or given. It should be a selection of the best books for the individual library. Conditions will vary greatly, and the test of the book is its suitability and fitness in the particular place in which it is found.

Few libraries are so large as to attempt to include all books, even all of value, and every library, large or small, needs to exercise care and discretion in the selection of books; but it is the small library, with its very limited income, of which we are speaking to-day, and it is in this library that it is most necessary that the selection be made carefully and wisely.

The principle of selection applies not only in buying books, but also in the care and disposition of them, however acquired. Gifts make their way to the library from individuals or from the government, and it is as important to select from these what the library really requires as to make a careful choice of the new books for the library to buy. A more generous spirit of co-operation between the large and small library is beginning to show itself, and it is in the disposition of gifts that the co-operative spirit can be of the greatest service. The old pamphlet which the small library does not want, and cannot use, may complete a valuable collection in some large library making a specialty of the subject, while the duplicate of a modern popular book which the large library will gladly exchange may fill a real want in the village library. The application of this principle will result in placing books where they will be most useful regardless of selfish considerations.

In the zeal to establish free libraries in every city and town, indiscriminate haste is sometimes shown, on the supposition that to procure a room or building and fill it with books is all that is necessary. Books are bought hurriedly, without sufficient thought of their appropriateness to the needs of the community, and gifts from old attics are welcomed, regardless of the fact that they are often of little or no value.

It seems to add impressiveness to the annual report to say that 500 volumes have been given to the library, and to evidence its prosperity. But such prosperity is in appearance only; each book is an expense to the library, even if

there is no original cost. It must be cared for, accessioned and cataloged, labelled and kept in repair, and in circulation a dull or out-of-date book may do actual harm, repelling the very person one desires most to attract.

A step which seems almost radical has been taken in Quincy, Mass., where the library had outgrown its new limits, and a new building, or addition to the old one, seemed a necessity. Unwilling to incur the expense, it has been decided, as you all know, to withdraw the least useful books from the library, keeping the number of volumes within the limits of 15,000, which the trustees consider a working library for a small town. Public documents, books of only ephemeral value, old school-books, etc., have been removed, and either sent to libraries, where they will be really useful, or sold to the second-hand dealer, and it is intended to continue this practice, so that the library shall be in every sense a selected library, containing only actually needed books.

Such a method, however, requires constant changes in the records; printed catalogs become inaccurate as soon as published, the expense of getting rid of the books is almost as great as of keeping them upon the shelves, and much care and thought on the part of the librarian or trustee is involved, if the selection is a judicious one. This may, however, be the best thing to do under the circumstances, and it is always necessary to look out for the changing values of books, to rid oneself to-day of the book which was the best to be had yesterday; but as far as possible the selection should take place at the beginning. The more careful one is in admitting to the shelves, the less danger will there be of an accumulation of worthless and useless books to make trouble later.

In the selection of the first books to form a new library, there is always a Scylla and Charybdis awaiting the unwary librarian or trustee. On one side is the great temptation to have the library represent the best thought and culture of the world in all ages. In the desire to fill the library with the very best, one fact is lost sight of, *i.e.*, that it is not the abstract value of the book, but its adaptability to the needs of the reader, that makes it the right book in the right place.

What can be more elevating and inspiring than the thoughts of Marcus Aurelius, the words of wisdom from Socrates and Plato, the poetry of Dante or Milton, or the essays of a Carlyle or an Emerson; but if they stand idle upon the shelves, if there are no lighter and more popular books to lead up to them, they are of little service in the library, and are rendering the library less useful than it otherwise would be.

Some years ago a subscription library was started in a small town, and the subscribers appointed as a book committee the three most scholarly, thoughtful, and intelligent men of the village, who expended much care and labor upon the choice of books for the little library taking infinite pains to procure the best literature that the world could afford. The standard authors in prose and verse were all upon the shelves; translations of the classic writers and full editions of the English authors. History was represented by Gibbon's "Decline and fall of the Roman empire," Mommsen's "Rome," Grote's "History of Greece," Alison's "Modern Europe," Bancroft's "United States," to say nothing of Neander's "Church history," in a number of volumes. The library has been struggling ever since to lift its head, weighed down by these ponderous volumes, and its usefulness was crippled for years by the injudicious selection of material, good in itself, but not good for the place it was to fill.

But having escaped Scylla, we have to beware of Charybdis, and also of the person who is anxious to get as many books as possible for every dollar, regardless of their contents. Such a person will eagerly watch the second-hand stores, and if one of the large department stores advertises a list of books at 19 cents a volume, it is hard to convince him that it is not advisable to send for the whole list, and so procure five books for one bought in the regular way. This method has nothing to recommend it, for it is extravagant rather than economical; the books are cheaply made and do not last; they are generally poor books, or at best inferior translations or editions of really good ones.

No general rules can be laid down for every library to follow; each must study its own needs and conditions. The town devoted to manufactures, with a large foreign population, will need a very different class of books from that required for the farming community, or for the suburb of some city with a large number of cultured readers.

There is one class which is found in every town and village — the children; and their corner of the library should be a large one in every case. School courses should be examined and books to be used in connection with them provided, supplementary reading furnished, and also a good supply of books for general reading; books that will tell the boy how to make an electric dynamo or a water wheel; for the collector, books upon bugs and butterflies, with directions as to their care and treatment, as well as descriptions of the different varieties possible for him to collect. The girl should have her share of such books; she may be a young naturalist, too, perhaps would be oftener than she is, with the right book to stir up the budding interest. Indoor games for the long winter evenings and out-of-door sports for spring and summer will find plenty of use. American history should occupy a large place upon the shelves; not only general histories, such as Eggleston and Higginson, but stories connected with persons and places of historic interest. Coffin's books are admirable; Lodge's "Hero tales from American history," Drake's "Watch-fires of '76," Scudder's "Life of Washington," Brooks' "Story of Abraham Lincoln," will make the dead bones of "hist'ry," cordially hated by the school boy and girl, alive with interest.

Perhaps there is danger of making the children's corner too prominent, and of allowing the younger readers to monopolize attention; others besides children have rights, but if the children's room and the children's books may receive too large a share of thought, the fad is a wholesome one, and we need not have much fear of carrying it too far. The departments need not be widely separated, and old and young will use them both. The immature mind of older growth will find the child's book of science just what it needs to furnish new thoughts and interests, while the wise librarian will watch every opportunity to lead the boy from Henty to Scott, from the verse of *St. Nicholas* to that of the poets.

If the village library is not supplemented by a college library, or is not in close proximity to a large town, reference-books should be bought as freely as possible, but with the greatest care. The library with an income of a few hundred dollars cannot afford to spend a large part of it on the "Encyclopædia Britannica," or the "Century dictionary," much as it would like to own those standard authorities. The new edition of Webster, and Johnson's "Universal cyclopædia," in eight volumes, will prove satisfactory substitutes, and the money saved can be more usefully expended upon some of the many handbooks, books of quotations and general information and cyclopædias or dictionaries of literature. The small library will hardly be able to buy Smith's "Classical dictionaries," but will find that Harper or Seyffert, in one volume, will take the place of the larger and more valuable works.

Tables have been made to show the proportions to be allotted to the different classes, and a good general guide can be found in *Public Libraries* for May, 1896, as well as in the "Catalog of the A. L. A. Library." These must be modified to suit different needs, but would be helpful in forming a basis.

In the very general remarks to which this paper is limited, it can only be recommended to begin near the level of the average reader, but keeping always a little in advance.

In history it is better to buy the short one-volume history, which is readable, and yet sufficiently accurate, rather than the long standard histories, which will stand upon the shelves only to gather dust. It is better to buy fuller histories for specially important periods than the long general histories which discourage the reader at the beginning. Fiske's "History of the American Revolution" and the "Critical period of American history" give the reader an instructive, and at the same time fascinating picture of the beginnings of our history as a nation. A short, interesting history of the French Revolution is harder to find, but Mignet, Stephen, or Gardiner will prove more satisfactory than that in any of the long general histories. The series entitled "Epochs of history" give very good accounts of many of the important periods, Gardiner's "Thirty years' war" being one of the best of these.

History naturally leads to biography; as much of American history can be learned through biography as in any other way, and lives of Napoleon will give one the best picture of France during its most interesting and important period. In general, brief rather than exhaustive lives should be sought for; the "American statesmen" series, the "Men of letters" for both England and America, are too

well known to need mentioning, and these shorter biographies, studies rather than portraits, as Mr. Larned calls them, may all be included with profit, though a selection might well be made, for even in the best series the books vary and are of unequal value.

Books of travel which bring into narrow lives glimpses of wider surroundings and different aspects of thought, perhaps appeal first to the uncultured reader, and if brought to their notice, Miss Bacon's "Japanese girls and women," Parsons' "Notes on Japan," Davis's "About Paris," "The west from a car window," or "Rulers of the Mediterranean," will often tempt them to leave the novel usually asked for in its place upon the shelves.

It is even more important in the fields of literature to beware of complete sets. Few authors have written so evenly that all their work is on the same high level with their masterpieces, and when the inclusion of a complete set of one author means the entire exclusion of another, the loss to the library is great.

A large proportion of fiction may be included, but great care must be taken to select only that which is good and pure and of some literary value. The small library will find that it has not money enough to buy all the good novels, and that it can supply literature light enough for any need, and yet neither worthless nor vicious.

These books will fill, to a large extent, the shelves of the smaller libraries. Philosophy will need but little room. In religion, sectarian books should as far as possible be avoided, but some sermons breathing a broad spirit of Christianity will be appreciated, and Washington Gladden's "Who wrote the Bible?" many of Lyman Abbott's books, and Van Dyke's "Gospel for an age of doubt," will never be out of place.

Sociology will tempt the modern librarian interested in the problems and perplexities of a complex civilization, and there is a greater call for books bearing upon such questions as time goes on, which should be encouraged, but a library in a small town should not be stocked with a large collection of books upon theories of political, economic, and social problems, in which the reader would only flounder without gaining any clear idea of the subject.

Books upon practical philanthropy, and short, clear expositions of the most important questions may be bought.

With very little money to expend for books, it may seem impossible to include periodicals in the list, and the library will sometimes depend for the most of its magazines upon the generosity of friends who promise to send *Harper*, *Century*, or the *Review of Reviews*, when they have finished reading them. This may serve for a while, but at best is very uncertain, and some numbers will never reach the library, while others will come so late as to do no good

An attractive reading-room is an important adjunct to the library, and no money is more usefully expended than that used for the magazines, which appeal alike to old and young, which give current news, items of interest in the scientific world, as well as short stories, pictures for the children, and household information for the mothers.

In making practical applications of these principles, the librarian will find bibliographical aids on every side, which the library of 10 years ago had to do without, and there is much less excuse for an ill-assorted, poorly selected library to-day than at that time. There seems to be no need of speaking even for 10 minutes upon the subject of the selection of books for the small library. It has all been said in the "Catalog of the A. L. A. Library." There is the principle and the model, and the town or village establishing a new library can do no better than use it as a basis for all purchases. Its supplements will bring it down to date, and together give a complete guide to the best literature for the working library.

The "List of books for girls and women," compiled by Leypoldt and Iles, gives critical notes upon books and authors and is almost invaluable. Sargeant and Whishaw's "Guide-book to books" furnishes 6000 titles in a classified arrangement, but is an English publication, and not as useful to the American library desiring American editions. In buying children's books, Miss Hewins' annotated list, just published by the Publishing Section of the Association, is the first thing, but may be supplemented by Mr. Hardy's "500 books for the young," published by Scribner, and also by the various lists recommended for school libraries.

After the library is started, the librarian will find it a more difficult task to decide upon the current literature, particularly if the income is very small, and each book must be weighed and considered.

The method used in the New York State Library School for noting the new books and ascertaining their value might, I think, be used with value by the small library. Each week the books which it is thought would be desirable are checked in the *Publishers' Weekly*, and then the entries are cut out and mounted on slips, while the critical periodicals are indexed for reviews; the references to the reviews being given in abbreviated form on the slip.

The librarian might use a double check mark for books about which there was no doubt, or which the library could afford to buy at once, and the entries could be put into the hands of the book committee for approval without delay. The others arranged in alphabetical order would form a basis for the purchases of the library from time to time.

The fiction lists published by the Massachusetts Library Club, with critical notes on each book, were a great help, and it is hoped that some way will be found of continuing them. The New York list of the 50 best books of the year for the village library aids greatly in sifting the wheat from the chaff, and the longer list from which the 50 are selected is useful to the larger library.

Advice should be asked from competent critics and from those interested in some special subject, and the librarian with a small income will do well to make haste slowly; it is better to wait for the help gained from reviews, from such lists as I have mentioned and trustworthy opinion, and most important of all from personal examination, than to be ambitious to have a new book upon the shelves as soon as it is published.

## ADVERTISING A LIBRARY.

BY MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE, LIBRARIAN OF THE JAMES PRENDERGAST FREE LIBRARY, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

DURING the Crimean war, a French soldier, dying, gave to the nurse who attended him a gift, something to be preserved as a memento, she thought. After the war she returned to France, carefully keeping the gift. Charmed with its singular beauty and fineness, as soon as she was able she had it framed and hung over the fireplace in her humble dwelling, that it might be constantly before her, something to enjoy, and for many years it cheered her. One day, some one entering her abode noticed the little ornament so honored in the cottage, and inquired concerning it. Then did she learn that the beautiful token was a note on the Bank of France of the highest denomination, and that during all her years of poverty and hardship she had been rich but had not known it.

The free libraries in our cities and towns adorn them, in truth, as the framed bank-note adorned the cottage of the French woman; but far too many in every community regard the library merely as a decoration, an ornament, a very proper and "nice" thing to have in the town, and fail entirely to understand that it is for their enrichment.

To spread abroad a knowledge of the riches of the library, helping the people to understand and appreciate that its wealth is for their use and profit and enjoyment, and not merely an ornament, is the duty of the librarian. So we will agree at the beginning that the object of library advertising is to convey to *all* the community a knowledge of the *whole* library. This can be accomplished in several ways, chief among which are newspaper advertising, posters and cards in public places and mills, work for clubs and schools, and personal work on the part of the librarian.

The local newspaper is doubtless the best advertising medium, for it goes into the homes, and the messages from the library gain an audience at any rate. Whether the people read the library article, for library advertising is reading matter, not display form, depends largely on the article itself and its place in the paper.

In advertising through the newspapers, it is well at the very start to have a thorough business understanding with the manager of the paper. Ascertain what will be published for you as news — that is, free of charge, and what

must be paid for at regular advertising rates. In general, all articles and items concerning a library are published free of charge, being considered as news and of especial interest to those who read the paper. But if you advertise a money-making entertainment to raise funds for your library, it must be paid for, as newspapers do not consider such things as news for free publication, even in behalf of a free library.

Then, as a matter of courtesy, arrange with the editor on what days he would prefer to receive copy from the library. We have found that on certain days of the week special matter fills the columns of the leading paper, while there is only chance news for the other days. Know the days that the paper has copy assured it, and plan your articles for the days that are less crowded, so winning the good will and special regard of the editor. Saturday is generally a day of much news, and it is also the day that the paper is best read, for there is more leisure. Yet it is advisable to have an occasional short, pithy article from the library in the Saturday issue, even though the columns may be crowded with other matter, for it will reach more people and be read more carefully than other days.

Then it is satisfactory to have an understanding with the editor concerning the space to be given library articles. Our leading local paper has eight pages; the first page gives the important telegraphic news and local events of greatest interest, the fifth and eighth pages give the locals, the fourth the editorials, and these four pages are glanced over, at least, by all who pick up the paper. The second and third pages are plate matter, while the sixth and seventh are scattering, with some plate matter, neighborhood correspondence, council proceedings, and a few local matters crowded off the other pages. It can be seen from this single example that certain pages of every newspaper are more sure of a reading than others, from the very nature of their contents, and whenever it is possible news from the library should appear on these pages.

The merchant, in advertising, recognizes the importance of preferred space, and has the privilege of buying whatever he desires. But since library advertising is published free of charge as reading matter, you cannot dictate as to space. Generally we say nothing about the space that the library item shall occupy, but occasionally when we have something of unusual importance or interest, we ask as a favor that the article may be well placed, and our request is always granted. I feel especially complimented when the library is given space on the first page, for an article there will attract attention and its headlines will be read at any rate. Last fall our list of books on the money question was published on the first page, while an editorial accorded on the fourth page advised all to read the books suggested in the list. We have never had so many calls for books published in a reading list, as we had for books on the money question on the days immediately following the appearance of the list on the first page of the paper. We notice also that when lists of new books are published, the demand for them is greater or less depending on the place where the list appeared.

Perhaps you wonder that I dwell at such length on what is apparently a small part of library advertising, but my experience has been that success waits on careful attention to these details, and a full understanding of existing conditions.

After the arrangements of business and courtesy have been adjusted, the next important consideration is, who shall write the articles that appear in the papers concerning the library. You will find that you must do the most of the writing yourself, if you wish the library adequately kept before the public, thus adding the work of a reporter to the many things that have come to be part of the librarian's profession. It is true that the library is not yet on the assignment book of the newspaper office; places of amusement, the police court and the trains are visited regularly by the reporters, but the library is only occasionally honored by them; when other news fails, they remember it. So the library would have only spasmodic mention if the reporters were depended upon for all of its notices.

Whatever appears in our papers concerning the library we prepare ourselves, for the most part, thus gaining not only a frequent notice in the columns of the paper, but the statements made as we wish them, for however well intentioned the average reporter may be, he can not write an article that involves professional knowledge technically correct; since he is not of the order. For the end of correct representation, ministers often report their own sermons for the

local papers, and lawyers would do well if the court proceedings that find a place in the newspapers were at least revised by them. Not long since a reporter gave a very wrong impression of a trial in one of our county papers, because he did not understand the technicalities of the case. At the suggestion of the editor, all of the articles that are supplied by the library are signed, to prove them official. I use simply the signature, The Librarian, and three years and more of communicating with the public over this signature have proved to me the wisdom of its use, for the community has learned that it speaks with authority concerning the ways and means of the library. But library news that comes always from one source has a sameness that is monotonous, so let the reporter help in the work all that he will, or all that you can persuade him to. Do not send him away without some news whenever he calls; suggest various items that can be written up briefly under the leader, Library Notes, or let him wander about the building as he pleases, to gain material by observation for "a story."

If there is more than one paper in your community furnish library news for all of them. Probably one journal will be superior to all the others and read by more people; the bulk of your news will doubtless go to this, perhaps for the very reason that it is a larger sheet and can give you more space. But do not slight any of the papers, rather, make them all the friends of the library; this can be done not only by providing copy for them all, but by dividing your job printing among them. The newspapers are very glad to grant favors, and it is but fair to patronize them when there is paid work to be done.

Having decided and arranged to communicate with the public through the newspapers, the great questions are, what shall be advertised, and how can advertising matter for frequent notices be assured.

Lists of new books published at short intervals have served most effectually in increasing and keeping our patronage. To explain how we arrange for the frequent publication of new books I shall be obliged to let you into a secret regarding our buying. We have no book-store in our town large enough or sufficiently well organized to supply a library, except to meet the demand for books of the day, so we buy directly from New York, and to save shipping charges and freight buy a large invoice several times during the year. If we placed in circulation at one time all the books purchased in an invoice we would have new books only two or three times in the course of a year, which would not serve to sustain a living interest in the library. We make a selection of those that are most in demand — the popular novels, books of travel, the latest scientific works, or books that are needed by some study or reading club — enough to make a list of 20 or 30, and after cataloging, we place them on an open shelf in the reading-room for general inspection before publishing a list of them in the daily paper. The understanding is that at nine o'clock on the morning following the publication of the list the books can be drawn for home reading, and patrons will often come half an hour early to secure a desired book.

I have found by experience that it is wise to issue books from our store-house with some method, perhaps choosing all the travel for one issue, the biography for another, United States history for a third, with some books in minor classes and always a little fiction to give the necessary variety. My object in issuing books of a kind together is two-fold. First, the published list has the continuity of a catalog, for it is printed, even in the newspaper, in regular catalog form, with author, title, and call-number, and serves the public in lieu of a regular bulletin, for many cut the lists from the paper and paste them in their finding lists, so keeping their printed catalog up to date.

Secondly, it is our custom to publish some notes or reviews concerning the new books, and these are more effective when there is a continuity of subject. Generally these remarks introduce the list of books, being a case of placing the moral first, that it may surely be read. I refer to the different books in the list "below," saying a certain one is "especially interesting," while another will be found "very timely"; that all have heard of "this" book, and will be glad to know that it can be found in the library; that of a certain author we have such and such books, but his latest book has been added, and will be found more interesting perhaps than any of his others; sometimes I write a short review of a book, the purpose of it all being to call attention to the books, especially to those that might be overlooked because their titles are not suggestive or attractive. I do not

print long notices, as they would not be read, and as too much information leads the people to think that we consider that they know nothing about the new publications for themselves, or do not keep in touch with the times.

Head lines are of the greatest consideration in connection with any matter for publication. The word *new* serves as a magnet always — New Books of Travel at the Library; Invoice of Books on United States History; The Latest Books on Electricity Ready for Circulation at the Library, etc., etc. — for headlines suggest themselves if the subject matter is well arranged.

I find that besides writing the articles for publication it is well to look to the proof-reading also; in fact, it is very important, especially in lists of new books, because the compositors do not understand the algebra (as they call it) of the Dewey system, and make woeful work of call numbers, the snarl of which the proof-reader does not always untangle. Besides, if writing for the newspapers is new to you, it is advisable to see your copy in cold print, for often it seems very different than it did in your own writing, and a few changes may greatly improve it. I make it a point to leave my copy with the city editor a day in advance of its publication, so it is early in type, which gives me ample time to read the revise carefully. Two years ago our leading paper introduced linotype machines, and we have arranged to have all the type of the new book lists saved; when we are ready to issue a supplement much of our work is done. We pay interest to the printing company on their investment in metal for the type, and will pay for paper and press work when the supplement is printed. In this way we save not only time, but money.

And yet another point regarding the publication of new books is in relation to the internal economy of the library. We have found it wise to advertise the circulation of new books for days that we are less busy, which is the middle of the week. Creating a demand for new books on dull days equalizes the work, which is essential in a library with a small force.

Once I made the serious mistake of placing a notice in the paper that an invoice of books had arrived from New York and would soon be issued. I regretted that statement, and resolved never again to advertise merely for the sake of having something appear about the library. Patrons would ask daily, "When will the new books be ready"? "What are some of the new books"? "Can't I have a new book to-day"? — so magnetic is anything new! So much time was consumed answering questions that it took much longer to catalog the books than it otherwise would have done. But we profit by mistakes, and out of an annoying experience I warn you, do not let the public know that you have received new books until they are ready for inspection.

While new books serve to advertise a library and make it popular, other things are necessary to make its full value known and appreciated. Reference lists on timely topics always bring their share of patronage. I remember the first reference list that we published was on James Anthony Froude, at the time of his death; not a popular subject, but it was a topic of the day, and we were endeavoring at the time to make known the wealth of the library in all its departments. The paper containing the list was issued at five o'clock in the afternoon and before the library closed that evening there were four calls from the list by students who were delighted to know that they could secure those books.

In publishing reference lists the one thing to remember is to have them timely, and this I can not make too emphatic. If your list is not ready and must follow rather than lead a movement, save it until next time. It is not so much the article as its being well timed. We find that our regular patrons watch for the reference lists; their interest in the library is maintained as its possibilities are revealed to them, and it is as necessary to keep patronage as to gain it.

But new books, and reading lists of attractive books and articles on current topics are not enough to reach all in a community, by any means; there will still be a goodly proportion that know nothing and seem to care nothing about the library. As merchants have bargain-days, which they advertise extensively to bring out the people, so libraries can arrange special attractions to win the unknowing and unappreciative public. Special attractions have aided materially in spreading abroad a knowledge of our library and have brought us the most returns for advertising. A year ago we had thirty water-colors of F. Hopkinson Smith on exhibition in our art gallery for two weeks. I learned from Mr. Smith in February that we

could have the pictures the last of April or first of May, on their way back from western cities to New York. From that date in February until the pictures came in May, something appeared in the papers on an average of every ten days, about Hopkinson Smith or his pictures. One week it would be a press notice of his pictures, the next a review of his latest book, then another art criticism from the press, and so the notices alternated. Marked copies of the papers were sent to the several newspapers in surrounding towns, with a note accompanying, asking the editor to copy or at least make note of the date and place of the exhibition of the Hopkinson Smith water-colors. During the two weeks that the pictures hung in our gallery 3000 people viewed them — as many as we could well accommodate. Of those 3000 visitors, most of them residents of the city, many told me, "This is the first time I have been in the library, but I do not mean it shall be the last;" and in truth they have become regular patrons. During the exhibition we published lists of books on art and architecture, also on Constantinople, Venice, and Holland, for the pictures were painted in these places.

There are many special attractions that can be arranged for libraries. Poster exhibitions have been popular both in large and small libraries, also exhibitions of art-works and photographs. Amateur photographs proved very popular in one library after vacation days were over, while some have been fortunate enough to have loan exhibitions of books and pictures, or both. Something can be arranged in every library, but it is always to be remembered that the success of any special attraction depends on the advertising. Talk about it in the papers, not so much as to appear ridiculous, but enough to let all know about it and remember it long enough to come. I know for a fact that we gain many regular patrons from those who come at such times.

We found that few in our community understood the use of "Poole's index" or of our dictionary card catalog. A "magazine day" was advertised, and to all that came I explained the use of the different indexes, letting all work out some references for themselves, and I never saw people more astonished and delighted than were those who thus learned that there was a key to unlock the stored wealth of the magazines. In like manner the card catalog was explained, to the wonder of all, who thought that it required a course of study to use it. Of course we are constantly explaining the use of these helps, but I have found it not a bad idea to have a day devoted to each of them once a year, that their names at least shall be heard in the land and their existence known.

This spring our special attraction was "travel day," which grew into several days to accommodate all that came. It developed from the demand for books of travel, which in turn was created by the departure for Europe of a party of 20 or more of the townsfolk. All their friends immediately desired to read about the sights of the other continent and follow them by proxy. It occurred to us at the library that it would be pleasant for the stay-at-homes if they could see and handle our books of travel and make their selections for summer reading from the books themselves. We cannot give the public access to the shelves because of the plan of our building, so on the tables in the reading-room, giving a table to each country, we spread all of our books on European travel, together with magazine articles, and pictures from our collection of mounted prints. We made the room as attractive as possible, posted leaders to indicate the route from table to table, furnished paper and pencils for notes, and gave personal attention to all who came. Those who travelled with us — and we had several hundred passengers — not only enjoyed the books and pictures during the few hours that they stayed, but made note of books that they wished to read. I am glad to report that many lists of books of travel, made on our library paper during those few days, appeared as call slips at the delivery-desk. We advertised this "travel day" extensively, though not long in advance, for it was a sudden thought and had to be carried out quickly. Because of short notice, we did not explain fully what it would be, but aroused the curiosity of the public, which offered a variety in our advertising form.

It is well to arrange special attractions for dull seasons, for the same reason that it is best to advertise new books for the less busy days of the week, namely, it equalizes the work at the library, and keeps up the interest of the community in the library.

But new books, timely reference lists, and special attractions are not the only things that will interest the public. The chief facts of the

monthly report will prove the worth of the library, especially if a statement is made comparing the circulation, use of reference-books, attendance in the reading-rooms, etc., with the same month of the previous year, provided, of course, that the comparison shows an increase. My annual report to the trustees is published in full in the papers, also the leading facts of the quarterly reports. Gifts to the library should not fail of proper mention in the daily papers; but so many things occur in every library to furnish advertising matter that it is needless to discuss this point further.

Though we depend on the newspapers very largely to herald the library in the community, we do not neglect other agencies, and among these are posters in public places. We have factories in our city employing many hundred operatives, whom we wished should know about the library. We had several hundred posters printed as attractively as possible, with a cut of the library at the top of the card and capital letters in red. We endeavored above all to make it plain that the library was *free*. One of the trustees suggested that the following sentences be given a prominent place: "Books may be taken home. There are no dues or charges except for books kept over time." "Tell them honestly," he said, "just when a charge will be made, even though they may never be obliged to pay a fine; you will find people a little suspicious of anything free, because they have learned from experience that '*free*' often has a string to it in some way to catch their nickels and dimes." No doubt you have noticed the truth of this, that it is difficult for all the people to conceive that the library is really free to them, without any cost. These posters were placed, by permission of the proprietors, in the different factories, where the employes in passing in and out would be sure to see them. I am convinced that they have brought the library much patronage, for whenever an applicant has given his occupation as "Employed in —— factory," we have asked if the card telling of the library had been read, and almost without exception it had served as the introduction to the library. We also have framed notices concerning the library in the post-office and hotels.

After all this communication with the public, there still remains personal work, which is one of the surest ways of bringing people to the library. This means that as a librarian you must give your whole self to the work. There is not a community now, I believe, that has not a study or reading club. Attend one of the meetings of the club, and if you are not a member you can secure an invitation to attend a meeting, and offer the co-operation of the library. Offer to help them with reference lists, and to place a certain shelf or section of the reading-room at their disposal, where the books that their program calls for can be kept together and renewed when necessary. If some of the club members cannot come to the library let the books be sent to them. The patronage of a study club creates a demand for better reading.

Go to the schools and tell the young people about the library and its treasures, many of which are especially designed for them. Be willing to be questioned about the library at any and all times. At first I mentally objected when I was stopped on the street, questioned in stores, at church, at receptions, wherever I happened to be, about the library, but I soon found that people were sincere and really wanted to know, so long since I willingly give information at any time and place, but I make it a point never to broach the topic of the library myself.

Then you can help others to advertise. A merchant came to the library seeking the picture of a May-pole for a May-day advertisement. After the picture had been found his attention was called to Chambers's "Book of days," which so delighted him that he ordered the volumes for his own library, saying that the books would give him many hints for timely advertisements. The same merchant was so greatly pleased with one of our books on the tartans of Scotland that he advertised an invoice of plaid woollen dress goods by the names of the plaids, which he found by comparing the goods with the colored plates in the book.

With all this advertising outside the library to gain patronage, and to create a demand for the best reading, advertising inside the library must not be overlooked. This includes bulletin-boards, black-boards, and other devices, mention and description of which exceed the limit of this paper.

The secret of library advertising, as Miss Stearns said last year, is "keeping everlastingly at it," or as the proprietor of a great factory in New York believes, and has constantly before him on his desk, "S. T. I. and W.," which he translates to all who inquire as "Stick to it and win."

## AIMS AND PERSONAL ATTITUDE IN LIBRARY WORK.

BY LINDA A. EASTMAN, CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.

IT is probable that most of us attended our first conference because there had already come to us something of the A. L. A. spirit; there is no one of us, I venture to say, but found this same first conference a revelation of ideas and ideals. But to analyze this spirit, to put the ideals into words, to search out the elementary and underlying purposes of our work, is not an easy task.

It is as yet but a little time since libraries were shrines whose portals opened to scholars only, shrines toward which the wayfaring man presumed not to lift his eyes. To-day, the doors are not only open wide to all, but we go out into the highways and byways, and compel men to come in. The library, which was a luxury for the rich man and the student, has become a necessity to the community at large, and the community must be taught its two great uses, as a means for recreation and for study. The librarian, who was guardian of the books, is becoming also the guardian of the thought-life of the people, but tradition lives with the people, and because of the old idea of the exclusiveness of the library, the librarian must labor with them to bring them unto their own. The library, in its influence, is whatever the librarian makes it: it seems destined to become an all-pervading force, stimulating public thought, moulding public opinion, educating to all of the higher possibilities of human thought and action; to become a means for enriching, beautifying, and making fruitful the barren places in human life. If this be true, librarians have an important part to play in the history of civilization and in the conservation of the race.

Is it necessary to have a broad and clear conception of the work for such accomplishment? Is it necessary to come to it well equipped and prepared? We are rather inclined to question our own temerity in daring to enter upon the work with anything short of the maximum of preparation, than to question its need.

In our attitude toward the work, it is all-important that we should start right, and then that we keep in the line o progress — one never reaches the place, in library work, where he has "learned it all." And whether he be librarian, or the lowest assistant on the staff, it it is possible in greater or less degree to further the work, or to block it by incompetency.

First, let us get the main purpose of the library definitely in mind, then set ourselves with all the intelligence and skill which we can command, to its realization. To the end that all may profit by the best thought of the world, books are furnished at the public cost; it is our part to see that these books are selected wisely, cared for properly and used profitably, that the administration is economical and effective, and that the library reaches the people who need its influence. All or any part of this work may fall to our share. There are innumerable technical details, but not one among them is so small that it needs not to be done with accuracy and precision; the great possibilities before librarians to-day have been made by the patient, careful study of detail by which, during the last quarter century, library methods have been worked out. To quote Mr. Dewey: "In library work, as in all other technical work, the 'spirit' is the all-important thing. If one has become filled with the spirit of the work, has grasped the broad ideas of how and why library work exists, has shared in the enthusiasm as to its future, the purely technical work will be mastered through this 'spirit.'"

As to the contact with readers, a winning or a forbidding presence in the presiding genius will of itself make the library popular or unpopular with the community; that part of the public who most need the influence of good books, and who know them least, are not likely to find what they need except through a mediator — the librarian or the assistant must often supply that live personal element which is their necessary support during their first explorations in the world of books. And along with the gracious winsomeness and the tact unlimited, there must be the strength and the knowledge which will compel confidence and respect.

In extending the use of the library, there must be constant and careful study of the conditions and needs of the community, with the keen insight and ability which can see and seize opportunities for arousing interest. With this reaching out into the lives of the people, the responsibility of the librarian is increased many-fold; he is not only, as in the past, the adviser and helper of the student and the inquirer, he is an educator who creates and stimulates a desire for knowledge and who directs its use; his work begins with the child and goes side by side with the work of the school, and the importance of co-operation with the latter can hardly be overstated, as the library alone has the work of education to carry on from whatever point the school leaves off.

Does this work, weighted with responsibilities, exacting in its demands and difficult in their fulfilment, broad as the field of human knowledge, altruistic in its efforts toward the bettering of mankind — does this work, you ask, receive the recognition that it merits? Not always — not often, perhaps, as yet. But there are rewards in the work itself; there is joy in achievement; and so long as the aims keep so far ahead of the accomplishment, it will be far more to some workers to know that progress is being made, than to hear praise of the work done.

## REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE.

BY WILLIAM H. TILLINGHAST, CHAIRMAN, ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN HARVARD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

THE event of the year in the field of local co-operative bibliography is the publication in May, by the Boston Public Library, of "A list of periodicals, newspapers, transactions, and other serial publications currently received in the principal libraries of Boston and vicinity." It covers 143 pages in brevier type, represents about 35 libraries, and contains over 5000 titles. The list is alphabetical, with a subject index. Periodicals indexed in the "Annual literary index" and in the "Cumulative index" are marked. In the case of a few very special journals the names of individuals are given, at whose residences or offices they can be seen. This list is the successor to one issued by Harvard College library in 1878.* Copies may be had by written application to the librarian of the Boston Public Library. A similar list has been published in the April bulletin of the Providence Public Library, for Providence and vicinity, and the Chicago Library Club has undertaken the preparation of one for that city. The latter will give information as to back sets, a very useful feature.

A noteworthy result of the union of library forces in New York City was the appearance of a bulletin of the united libraries, in January, which gives bibliographies, special catalogs, documents, and various matter of much interest.*

In turning to bibliographical work of a wider scope, mention must be made of the "Cumulative index," now in its second year. It is not co-operative in method, but is prepared and published by the Cleveland Public Library. It now indexes 100 periodicals, and gives occasional special bibliographies besides, but it is the cumulative feature which gives it its great value as a library tool, each month's issue containing in one alphabet all the titles of the preceding months until the December issue, which includes the titles for the year. The Cleveland Public Library is making an interesting experiment in thus testing the availability of the linotype for this peculiar kind of library work, and deserves thanks for its public spirit, in assuming the labor and expense. All who have used it will hope that it may prove a financial success. It is much to be desired that the leading French, German, and Italian periodicals might be added to the list of those indexed, but this feature would not be likely to extend the subscription list, though it would

* A list of serial publications now taken in the principal libraries of Boston and Cambridge. 1st ed., December, 1878. Cambridge, 1878, 30 p.

* Bulletin of the New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations. Published monthly by the New York Public Library, 40 Lafayette Place, New York City. Subscription $1 a year.

add much to the usefulness of the index in the large libraries, and would be welcomed in a large proportion of the smaller cities and towns.

In the last report it was pointed out that an exceptionally good opportunity for co-operation was to be found in cataloging the articles in the publications of various learned societies. The idea had occurred to others, and has been actively debated by the New York Public Library, Columbia University Library, the John Crerar, the Boston Public, and Harvard University libraries. Investigations into the cost of printing the titles in such work have been made in New York and Boston, and a report upon the matter will be submitted to the Association at Philadelphia. The committee believe that co-operative work along this line has promise of success, and hope that the subject will be carefully considered by the Association, with a view to the issuing of cards for such titles being undertaken by the Publishing Section. This work is not indexing but cataloging, largely analytical cataloging, of a class of books which are received by the libraries interested at about the same time. Much of the work is already done by those libraries that receive the serials; the object is, first, to do this work more economically, then to increase, if possible, the number of serials cataloged, and to give other libraries the chance of profiting by the work to such extent as they wish. It is clear there is here a large field for work without intrenching upon that reserved for the operations of the Royal Society.

The interest in general bibliography which has prevailed for the last few years increases. The absolute necessity for some means of knowing what is being printed in the various branches of knowledge is even more apparent to scholars than to librarians. To various scientific organizations we owe not only attempts to shorten the titles of scientific papers, and to economize the labor of the indexer by a typographical emphasis of important words, but the actual preparation of catalogs in botany, mathematics, zoölogy. An international conference of bibliographers at London last year, with the aid and advice of the Royal Society, laid the foundations for a general catalog of the literature of pure science from 1900 on. The Institut International de Bibliographie, established under government patronage at Brussels, proposes an even wider field of service. In this country, in England, in Belgium, in Austria, etc., general catalogs of national literature are actively debated, if not formally undertaken. These, and like matters, will claim a large place in the deliberations of the International Library Conference of this summer. If the next century is to be the age of electricity, and of aerodromes, it will be no less the age of bibliography.*

The Publishing Section will report upon the result of their first year's experience in issuing printed cards. There is no other co-operative undertaking in the library field in which success means so much to every library in the land. We hope that the Association will make an earnest and enduring effort to obtain success. The Library Bureau in London is making a similar experiment, and the Bibliographical Institute at Brussels has tried to induce publishers on the Continent to issue cards, or at least separable titles for catalog use, with their books, and several firms in Leipzig, Berlin, and elsewhere, have made the experiment.†

The preparation of indexes to books issued without them is a good field for labor, and it appears from the continued publication of such books that the Association would do well to remonstrate vigorously against this evil.

It is a pleasure and a duty to express the gratification which we feel at the establishment of the Public Documents Office at Washington, at the amount and quality of bibliographical

* The discussion upon this subject in Europe has been mainly occupied with the Decimal classification, which has been strongly supported by the Institut International de Bibliographie. It has not been confined to library journals, but has broken out in various scientific periodicals. Its course may be traced, however, by reports in the *Library Journal*, and in the files of *The Library*, *Revue des Bibliothèques*, *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, *Revue Internationale des Archives*, etc.

There is, however, opposition to the theory of a universal catalog apart from any special scheme of classification, as impracticable and unwieldy and an imperfect substitute for special bibliographies and catalogs of national literature. See the article, "Die Bewegungen auf dem Gebiete der internationalen Bibliothekswesen," by Otto Hartwig, in *Cosmopolis*, for May, 1897.

† See *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, Jan., 1897, p. 48, and other passages. See also, *Centralblatt*, May, 1897, p. 238, for mention of a prize offered by the "Brusseler Austellung" for an improved process for economical reproduction of titles in small numbers.

work already accomplished by that office, and at the comprehension of library needs and the willingness to satisfy them shown by the present superintendent, Mr. Crandall.

The second International Library Conference, which is to be held in London, July 13–16, naturally takes the first place in any consideration of the organization and association of library interests, but it is so much in our minds, and is sure of the attendance of so many from this Association, that it needs but to be mentioned here. It will be a notable gathering, and many and weighty are the subjects for its consideration.

The organization of the Library Association of Australasia does not fall within this year, but the publication of the proceedings of the conference at which it was founded must not be passed over.*

The committee had hoped to submit a special paper on local library associations, for the consideration of the Association, but can only offer their regret at their inability to do so; our loss, however, is the gain of the conference across the water, and in the transactions of that body we may hope to read what we would have gladly heard here.†

A paper read by Mr. Arthur H. Chase, state librarian of New Hampshire, before the library association of that state, 29th Jan., 1891, bears directly upon this subject, and has a number of interesting and valuable suggestions.*

In 1895–96 the Massachusetts Library Club published monthly lists of works of fiction selected by a committee of readers. An inquiry into the usefulness of the lists undertaken at the close of the year showed that, while there was not an immediate probability of subscriptions sufficient to enable the club to carry on the work, the lists had been of material service in many parts of the country, so that there was a possibility that if continued they might win their way to a paying basis. A committee was therefore appointed to find out whether a trial of the lists for three years could be secured by co-operation. The final report of this committee has not yet appeared. Such lists have apparent potentialities of usefulness along several lines, and it is to be desired that the experiment of issuing them should have a satisfactory trial.

The discussion of books of the year by local associations is much to be commended. It has been successful where tried, and might well be a feature in the program of each association. Certainly it is to be hoped that no association will avoid it because the same books have been already discussed by other associations. Such an objection ignores the larger part of the good to be derived from these discussions, which will be found to lie in the mental attitude and the habits of thought induced and trained thereby.

Another field for good work has been opened by the Indiana Library Association. A practical demonstration of the details of library work, such as was given at their Library Institute, would be of great value in every state, working to the advantage of librarians in small towns and assistants who otherwise might get no benefit from the experience of the profession, and therefore working greatly to the benefit of the associations.

* Account of the proceedings of the first Australasian Library Conference, held at Melbourne, on the 21st, 22d, 23d, and 24th April, 1896; together with the papers read, lists of delegates, etc., and the constitution and office bearers of the Library Association of Australasia. Melbourne. [1896.] 4to, 65 p.

The "Oesterreichischer Verein für Bibliothekswesen," founded in December, 1895, intends to issue "Mittheilungen," but none have as yet appeared. Brief notices of its meetings are given in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen.*

† Mr. Putnam sketched in outline the different nature of the work of a national and a local association in his remarks at the union meeting at Hartford. An appreciation of the importance of the work that can be best done by local bodies underlies much of the recent discussion about the future of the A. L. A.

* Co-operation among the libraries of New Hampshire: paper read before the New Hampshire Library Association at its annual meeting, Jan. 29, 1891; by Arthur H. Chase. Concord, 1896. 13 p.

## REPORT OF THE A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.

BY WILLIAM C. LANE, CHAIRMAN, LIBRARIAN OF THE ATHENÆUM, BOSTON.

THE most important thing which the Publishing Section has to report is the enlargement of its work and of its power to handle new enterprises by the continuous employment of an assistant secretary whose whole time is given to its service. This involves a continuous expense, but was made necessary by the Section's undertaking to issue printed cards for current publications, and, once done, places it in a position to assume additional new activities in the future as they may be required.

Since the last report was made in September, 1896, the "Supplement to Sargent's 'Reading for the young'" has been published — a list about equal in length to the original catalog and accompanied by a new subject-index covering both the original volume and the supplement. Over 3500 copies of the original edition were sold, and an equal or larger number of the new edition (original and supplement combined) ought to be required. It is a book which every library, large or small, ought to have on its reference shelf, and which every school teacher ought to find useful.

The second publication of the year has been the "Annotated bibliography of fine art," by Russell Sturgis and H. E. Krehbiel, edited by Mr. George Iles. This is the first of a projected series of special bibliographies, to be prepared by competent experts, with critical and comparative notes. It has been well received by the press, but it is still too soon to say how good a sale it will find, and upon some measure of financial success, that is, some evidence that the book is really wanted, must depend the decision whether the series can wisely be continued. The Section is established for the express purpose of publishing works useful to libraries which publishers cannot undertake in the ordinary course of business. It can afford to publish without a profit and in some cases at a loss, but it must necessarily judge of the usefulness of its publications in part by the number of copies sold.

Miss Hewins' short "List of books for boys and girls," with brief notes, has also seen the light. The expense of printing has been small, and the little pamphlet is sold at 10 cents apiece, and at a very much lower price in quantities. It is hoped that many libraries will want large numbers for distribution among their readers.

The most considerable undertaking of the year, however, is the assuming of the work carried on previously for three years by the Library Bureau, namely, the issue of printed cards for current publications. The work has been continued on practically the same lines as under the Library Bureau, several proposed changes having been found either impracticable or undesirable. The number of subscribers has remained the same through the year (about 60 sets are taken), and this seems to be about the number that can be depended upon under the present conditions. A few large libraries print their own cards and for that reason do not buy ours. Many small libraries and some larger ones consider that they cannot afford the expense of printed cards, either because they use too small a proportion of those issued or because they find that even if they use a third or more of them the expense is higher than for cards written in the usual way. It should be remembered, however, in judging of the relative advantages of the two kinds of cards, that the printed cards are distinctly *better* than any written ones, that there is a saving of time in using them, though it may or may not amount to as much as the expense of the cards, and that the cards, having particulars of publisher and price, are of use in the administration of the library whether put into the catalog or not. The work must still be considered as an experiment, and its permanent success as uncertain. The receipts of the past year, from subscriptions and from the sale of books sent by publishers, has paid the expense of manufacture and distribution, and a fair proportion of the assistant secretary's salary, but any falling off in the number of subscriptions or any increased difficulty in getting books from the publishers would probably stop the work. To the publishers who have sent their books the Section would express its gratitude, but there is still in

many cases constant difficulty in persuading them to send their books *early*, in advance of publication or even in advance of the copies they send out for review, yet the usefulness of the cards depends very largely on the promptness of their issue.

Many publishers are with difficulty persuaded that it is worth while for them to send us their books free, doubting the value of the advertisement, yet the Section considers that in distributing cards to libraries it does render the publisher a service, and that each card as it appears in the catalog drawer, standing out sharply from the written ones around it, is a continual advertisement of the book and its publisher.

If our subscription list were larger, or if the proposition made in the course of the last winter had been carried out, we could appeal to publishers more successfully. This proposition was to issue advance lists with single-line titles of the books to be cataloged, and allow librarians to check on these the books they had bought or were likely to buy, and return them within two weeks, after which the cards were to be printed and distributed. It was expected that these advance lists might have a large circulation, so that no publisher could afford not to have his books included in them, and that by making it possible for a library to buy only the cards it was likely to use, the principal objection to the present general subscription plan would be obviated. But the responses to the circular sent out were so few that the scheme had to be dropped.

We still believe that a plan substantially on these lines can sometime be carried out with success; but for the present, if our subscription list remains constant and our relations with publishers continue the same, it is evident that what we are now doing is worth carrying on along the same lines. The conditions under which the work is done are, on the whole, as favorable as we could find. The Boston Athenæum has given us office-room and free access to its collections and reference-books. In Miss Nina E. Browne, the assistant secretary, we have a rapid and efficient worker, who has had charge of the printed cards since their issue was begun by the Library Bureau. We have no expense for rent, light or heat, and the general superintendence of the work is gratuitous.

The most encouraging direction for an enlarged use of printed cards is for articles in serial publications, especially such as are not included in any of the general indexes to literature of this kind. Five of the large libraries of the country have been considering the interchange of cards among themselves for such titles, and the Publishing Section hopes it may be able to make an arrangement with these libraries, under which it can undertake to print these titles, furnish them to the libraries at a lower cost than they could do the work for themselves, and at the same time distribute such as might be wanted to other libraries at a moderate price, and so allow them to share in the advantages of the work done co-operatively by the five large ones. It is too soon to make any final statement in regard to this plan, but it is one of the most interesting and useful directions in which the work of the Publishing Section can develop.

Of other work before us there remains the "Index to portraits," so long talked of and so much wanted, upon which a substantial beginning has now been made, the copying of Mr. Samuel's material, being under way, and constant work being done by the assistant secretary in the intervals of other demands upon her time. A preliminary list of works to be indexed has been printed in the *Library Journal*, a short paper of instructions compiled, and several offers of co-operation have already been received. The work will necessarily be an extensive one, and we shall be called upon to sink a good deal of money in it before we can get any return.

The "Supplement to the A. L. A. index," or the new edition, as we hope it may be, cannot be completed this year, but we may expect to see it in 1898.

A new edition of the "List of subject headings for dictionary catalogs" is called for, the first one being exhausted, and will be taken up as soon as we judge that we can prudently do so.

An "Annotated bibliography of American history" is likely to be the next in our series of annotated lists, if the success of the fine art bibliography justifies an extension of the plan.

A list of French fiction suitable for general circulation has been kindly submitted by Mr. William Beer, of New Orleans, but its publication was necessarily postponed for a time on account of the other undertakings on hand.

It is expected, however, that it may be taken up again during the coming winter.

The "Library primer," which has been printed in tentative form in the pages of *Public Libraries*, was referred at the last meeting of the Association to a special committee for revision, after which it was to come to this Section for publication, but we have as yet received no communication in regard to it from the committee.

Finally, in speaking of the financial condition of the Section, we wish first of all to place on record our grateful appreciation of the generosity of the trustees of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa., who have sent a gift of $100 to be used to advance the work which the Section is doing. Such a gift brings with it more than the cash which is added to our bank account. To know that the work which the American Library Association has undertaken to do through its Publishing Section, is appreciated as valuable and important to library interests in general, strengthens our hands and encourages our efforts.

Financially, it is to be said that while we have no cause for discouragement, yet it is evident that we cannot properly do the work we have on hand without a larger capital. The Trustees of the Endowment Fund have lent us within a little more than a year $1000. This is from their accrued income, not from their principal, which they think, and rightly, must be invested in other ways, like other trust funds. The $1000 is nominally a loan, yet we understand that if necessary the interest may be remitted or returned to us, and the loan itself become an appropriation if circumstances require it.

The publications of the Section have so far been fairly successful. The "A. L. A. index" has paid for itself and has yielded a small sum for several years to its compiler under the agreement between him and the Section. The "Subject headings" considerably more than paid for itself. The original edition of "Reading for the young" has never quite brought back what has been spent on it, but the deficit is a small one and may possibly be wiped out by the supplement. The "Books for girls and women" was not printed at the expense of the Section, and the receipts from its sale do not swell our income, but are paid over for the present to its sponsor, Mr. Iles. The "Fine art" list will probably not pay for itself. The printed cards fortunately bring in, with the help of money received from the sale of books, just about what they cost us. But it will be seen that with funds recently locked up in paying for the "Supplement to 'Reading for the young,'" the "Fine art bibliography," the "List of books for boys and girls," the work on the "Portrait index," and the continuous expense of the assistant secretary's salary, with the new edition of the "A. L. A. index" before us, further expense on the preparation of the "Portrait index," with the ultimate very heavy expense of its publication, and the other occasions for expenditure which have been mentioned above, we distinctly need and must have more money to use.

The Executive Board of the Association last year appropriated $200 toward the running expenses of the Section, and we hope that it may be able to give us a still larger appropriation for the coming year, the Publishing Section having become distinctly a committee of the Association charged with carrying out certain important functions.

We would also suggest that the example of the trustees of the Carnegie Library is a good one for either individuals or boards of trustees to follow, and that from $1000 to $5000 placed in the treasury of the Publishing Section would bear good fruit in the library cause.

# REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SCHOOLS, 1896–1897.

BY ANDERSON H. HOPKINS, JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY, CHICAGO.

## NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE Library School took possession in February of its new rooms, on the fifth floor of the capitol. These are directly over the old quarters, 60 feet higher. They are reached by three elevators, and besides the finer view, the quiet and freedom from dust — because so much further from the street — they have a much better ventilation and light and more abundant room. Instead of the tables heretofore used the students are supplied with standard desks, each with an electric student-lamp. Large new coat and toilet rooms have been provided, and otherwise the school begins its second decade by occupying quarters vastly better adapted to its work than it has ever before enjoyed.

On account of the American Library Association's trip to Europe this summer, and also because of the extra labor involved in moving the Library School from the third to the fifth floors of the capitol, the second session of the summer school will be postponed till July and August, 1898.

Much disappointment has been expressed by the librarians and assistants of the smaller libraries of the state at the omission of the summer school, thus showing that the work met a real want.

During the first session of the summer school the number of students was limited to 20, but two others took part of the work. Of these 22, all but one were engaged in library work, and 10 were in New York libraries. At the examinations 14 passed, four of these with honor, *i.e.*, with a marking above 90 per cent.

The class of 1897 is the first to graduate since the change of policy in regard to the senior class went into effect. According to this change the completion of junior work does not necessarily admit to the senior class. Class work, examinations and personal qualifications are weighed, and only those who seem likely to render important service to the library profession are admitted.

It is gratifying to note that the demand for the graduates of the school continues. Nearly all of the members of the senior class have secured positions which they will assume as soon as the work of the school is finished.

The bibliographies and theses presented this year as a requirement for graduation show unusually good work, and the subjects seem to be of special interest. A list of these subjects is given in the *Library Journal* for June, supplementing the list which was printed in the March number.

The New York State Library bibliographic bulletins nos. 2–4 are almost ready for issue. These numbers contain the following bibliographies, compiled by Library School students:

M. C. Wilson. Reading list on colonial New England, 1620–1754.

C. W. Plympton. Select bibliography on travel in North America.

G. F. Leonard. Reading list on the history of the 17th century.

A register of the New York State Library School, covering the first 10 years of its history, from January, 1887, through December, 1896, has been compiled, and will be printed in the New York State Library report for 1896. This register includes the names of all matriculated students with the positions which they have held and are now holding in the library profession.

Since its opening in 1887, the New York State Library School has had 74 students from New York, and has also drawn 137 from 29 other states, and six from England and Germany and Sweden.

From January, 1887, through December, 1896, its students have filled 243 positions in New York, 284 in 24 other states, and two in two foreign countries.

The visit to the libraries of New York and vicinity occurred April 13–23. The yearly visit of the school to New York or Boston libraries proves increasingly valuable. A marked improvement was noted this year in the written reports of the chairmen of the various student committees who reported on the visit.

Special mention should be made of the col-

lections of notes and samples which are a part of the requirement for graduation. The material collected during these annual visits and throughout the two years of the course is most admirably arranged.

Mr. F. M. Crunden was chosen by the New York State Library School Association its alumni lecturer for 1897, but on account of the International Library Congress in London, he was obliged to postpone his lectures.

Owing to the most generous response to its request the Library School has, during the past year, added very largely to its collection of printed matter, issued by American and foreign libraries. English librarians especially have sent extremely interesting collections illustrating their methods.

The school is making a special collection of material in regard to national, state, and local library associations, and also to library training, and earnestly invites the co-operation of all interested. It has also a large and valuable collection of clippings relative to libraries, which it desires to make as complete as possible.

The catalog of the collection on library architecture, which was prepared for the comparative library exhibit at Chicago, has been increased in value this year by indexing the pictures of library buildings which are found in books and periodicals. All the illustrations in the *Library Journal* have been brought out in this way.

It is a great satisfaction to find that the various collections of the school are proving most useful, not only to its own students, but to outsiders as well. Numerous calls come from librarians all over the country for material which can be found nowhere else.

A special exhibit will be sent to the International Bibliographic Conference at Brussels.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The work of the first-year class has been changed but little this year, except that more time has been given to reference work and bibliography.

The first-year class had the advantage during the past year of a course of lectures on printing and bookmaking, the reproductive processes, history of bookbinding, and special lectures on subject bibliography given to the second-year class.

The annual visit to libraries at a distance was made to Washington and Baltimore. During the third term one afternoon a week was devoted to visiting the libraries in the vicinity of New York.

A second-year course has been offered this year for the first time. The interest of the students, the courtesy and kindness of the director, Lenox librarian, and staff of the New York Public Library, and the good-will of the Grolier Club, have insured its success. It is a matter of great regret that the absence of the librarian makes it necessary to omit the course during the coming year.

The number of students enrolled has been: First year, 22; second year, 3; total, 25.

Not a member of the class has been obliged to give up the course during the year, this being the first class of which the whole number entering remained to graduate.

Reports have recently been received from 82 of the former graduates of the school. All but two of this number have held library positions. Of these there are 15 librarians and 24 catalogers, six are doing reference work, two are in charge of children's rooms, and the rest are general library workers.

There are a few corrections to be made to the report on Library Schools, published in the proceedings of the Cleveland conference. A very natural misunderstanding of the nomenclature used in the class schedule led to a misstatement of the amount of time given to some of the subjects studied. From the report it would be supposed that only the "three closing lectures of the year are devoted to bibliography," whereas trade bibliography is given in connection with the order department work, the more important indexes and subject bibliographies are taken up in the reference lectures, and a number of lists are compiled by the class, thus acquainting them practically with the bibliography of many subjects.

To the loan systems our school is credited with devoting but two per cent. of time in the second term, as it was not understood that in the hours marked "Desk" the class had instruction and practice in all the routine work of the circulating department of the library, about nine per cent. being given to that in the first and second terms, and three hours a week of practical work in the third term. It is this ex-

perience which is especially helpful in preparing the students for public library work.

It is to be noted as a matter of no slight interest that the examinations have been set and marked by the lecturers themselves in the second-year course, and a distinct step forward has been taken in the training of catalogers to adequately treat incunabula, manuscripts, and early Americana.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The course of instruction during the past year has been very similar to that of the preceding year. It is still found necessary to give attention to literature, owing to the relative ignorance of the candidates in this branch, which is so important to library assistants as well as to librarians. A very interesting feature of the course has been the discussion by subjects of the books contained in "The list of books for girls and women," comparing the selections with the A. L. A. catalog in the same subjects. The notes have been very instructive, and have given the students some knowledge of the most important and popular books in several classes. It is impossible in one year, with the study of the technical phases of library work, to devote much time to this side of a librarian's education, essential as it is.

The lectures on the "History of books and libraries," given by President MacAlister, of the Institute, were most enjoyable, and were illustrated with lantern slides representing styles of writing and printing, various forms of books, and noted libraries.

The class of 1896–97 began work on October 1, 1896, with 16 students enrolled. In addition there were eight special students (assistants in the Free Library) who attended the lectures on reference work and bibliography. The students came from the following states: Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

The graduating class in June numbered 13, of whom two have accepted positions in libraries. Of former classes, graduates are to a large extent engaged in practical work. Some students have taken the course without intending to use it as a means of livelihood.

During the year visits have been made to several of the Philadelphia libraries. The usual New York visit was omitted.

This spring the number of inquiries regarding the course, as well as the number of applicants for entrance examinations, has been larger than ever before, showing the evident spread of interest in the profession.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Perhaps the greatest change which has taken place among the library schools this year is that which occurs at Armour Institute. This school has been formally transferred to the University of Illinois at Champaign, Ill., and the course has been both lengthened and broadened. Miss Katharine Sharp, formerly director of the school at Armour Institute, has been appointed professor of library economy and director of the Library School in the University of Illinois. Miss Mary L. Jones, formerly of the University of Nebraska, has been appointed assistant professor of library economy. Miss Margaret Mann, who was last year an instructor in Armour Institute Library School, has been engaged as cataloger.

The course of instruction is to cover the ordinary four years of university study, but only the last two years of the course are to be devoted to purely technical library work, the first two years consisting of the usual college course, with some general lectures and reference work. In other words, practically two years of college work will be required for entrance upon the course in library science.

The change to the University of Illinois has been made after mature consideration, and it is believed that the step is a wise one. The library is not yet large, but a very liberal appropriation for the purchase of books has lately been made, and the state has just built for the university at a cost of $160,000 a beautiful new library building. The various libraries of the university now include about 40,000 volumes.

The degree of Bachelor of Library Science (B.L.S.) is to be conferred on those who complete the entire course.

The work of the past year at Armour Institute has been similar to that of previous years. The students numbered 21, of whom three were seniors and 18 juniors. The usual routine of the previous year has been followed, and visits to libraries in Chicago were made a short time ago. Before the school year had closed the

arrangement for transferring the school to the University or Illinois had been completed, and the announcement made in such manner that the continuity of the school is not in any way interrupted. The sole difference is that the school has been transferred to another place, and the same work is to be pursued as heretofore, except that it is to be more extended and complete than has been possible up to this time.

At the dedication of the new building of the University of Illinois Mr. Dewey gave the address, and he is able to speak with certainty of the bright prospects for the new Illinois State Library School.

OTHER TRAINING SCHOOLS.

The training class heretofore instructed by Mr. Dana, at Denver, has been given up, because there positively was not sufficient space in the library to accommodate the pupils.

The Amherst Summer School, conducted by Mr. Fletcher, is to have its session of six weeks this summer, beginning July 5, and running to August 13. There is no special report to be made, because the session of last year had been held before the meeting of the Cleveland conference, and was covered by that report.

The third session of the Wisconsin Summer School is to be held at Madison under the auspices of the University of Wisconsin Summer School, beginning July 5 and closing August 13, a six weeks' term. The work of previous years has been so successful that the demand for this summer term has been constantly growing. The course this year is to be under the direction of Miss Cornelia Marvin, who was last year instructor in reference work and bibliography in the Library School of Armour Institute. The course will follow the same plan as heretofore.

There have been conducted a number of classes within the past year according to university extension methods by various persons interested in the advancement of modern library economy. It does not seem best to make an inexact statement concerning this work. It is to be hoped that future reports may take cognizance of these features of library work, so recently developed. It has not been possible to make any adequate statement of them in this report.

Your committeeman greatly wished to revise and add to the tabular statement made by the Committee on Library Schools last year, and printed in the *Library Journal*, 21 : C96, so that it might be brought completely up to date ; but the time allowed him for making this report has been so limited that it has been impossible to compile the necessary statistics for this table.

## REPORT ON GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

BY CAROLINE M. HEWINS, LIBRARIAN OF THE HARTFORD (CT.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE gifts and bequests reported since July of last year amount to more than $400,000 in money, nearly 50,000 volumes of books and pamphlets, buildings valued at more than $200,000, and manuscripts, books, and pictures worth nearly half a million, together with many other gifts whose value is not stated. The gifts to travelling libraries in Wisconsin are worthy of notice, and will do incalculable good in the thinly-settled parts of the state.

The tabulated statement of the gifts and bequests for the period covered is given in the same form as last year. It should be remembered that the report made to the Cleveland Conference covered two years, a fact that explains the difference in extent between that report and the present one.

| State. | City or Town. | Name of Library. | Gift or Bequest. | Source. | Amount in Money. | No. Vols. in Books and Pamphlets. | Building Valued at | Conditions or Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| California | Berkeley | University of California | Gift | Mr. Greenbaum | | 1,000 | | Semitic library of the late Rabbi Greenbaum. |
| | Palo Alto | Leland Stanford Jr. University | Gift | Mrs. Leland Stanford | | | $1,000,000 | House on "Nob Hill," San Francisco. |
| Connecticut | Ansonia | Ansonia Public Library | Gift | Olivia E. P. Stokes | $1,000 | | | For nucleus of endowment fund. |
| | New Milford | New Milford Library | Gift | Egbert Marsh | 10,000 | | | On condition of $500 a year from the town to himself or his wife for life. |
| | Somers | Somers Free Library | Gift | Mrs. L. C. Whitney | 500 | | 3,000 | $500 for books. |
| District of Columbia | Washington | Free Circulating Library | | Not stated | | 1,126 | | |
| Georgia | Athens | Jesse Spalding | Gift | | 15,000 | | | For public library and museum. |
| Illinois | Peoria | Peoria Public Library | Gift | Peoria Mercantile Library Association | | | 70,000 | |
| Iowa | Paulina | Paulina Public Library | Bequest | F. G. Frothingham | 15,500 | | | $15,000 for library building; $500 for nucleus for book fund. |
| | Webster City | Webster City Public Library | Bequest | Kendall Young | 200,000 | | | |
| Maine | Augusta | Lithgow Library | Bequest | Ex-Governor Williams | 1,000 | | | |
| | Bangor | Bangor Public Library | Bequest | Augustus D. Manson | 10,000 | His priv. lib. No. not stated | | For a building. "It being my hope and desire that such a building shall become the centre of education, literature, and art, for the city of Bangor." |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | George Fred. Godfrey | 1,000 | | | |
| | Dover | | Gift | Hon. E. A. Thompson | 10,000 | | Value not stated. | As a memorial of his wife. |
| | Rockland | Rockland Public Library | Gift | Dr. F. E. Hitchcock | 700 | | | $200 in money; $500 worth of books |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | Mrs. Mary C. Titcomb | 1,000 | | | |
| Maryland | Baltimore | Johns Hopkins | Gift | G. W. Gall | | Not stated | | Dillman Oriental library. |
| Massachusetts | Boston | Boston Public Library | Gift | Victorienne Thomas Artz | 10,000 | | | Income to be used for rare editions of English and American authors, to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Charles F. Atkinson | | 242 | | English literature. |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | Caleb Davis Bradlee | 1,000 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Allen A. Brown | | 322 | | Music. |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Mr. and Mrs. James M. Codman | | 611 | | Landscape architecture, in memory of Henry Sargent Codman and Philip Codman. |
| | " | " " " | Gift | German Patent Office | | 5,599 | | Numbers of "Patentschrift." |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Various sources | | | | 1,100 photographs of works of art: memorial to Harriet H. Graupner. |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | Mrs. Bessie S. Lockwood | | 1,643 | | "The Hiland Lockwood Gift." |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | Charles Mead | 2,500 | | | Charles Mead Trust Fund, preferably for the South Boston Branch. |
| | Bourne | | Gift | Emily H. Bourne | | | 15,000 | Memorial of her father, Hon. Jonathan Bourne. |
| | Brookline | Brookline Public Library | Bequest | Caleb Davis Bradlee | 500 | | | |
| | Cambridge | Cambridge Public Library | Gift | T. W. Higginson | | Not stated | | "Galatea Library," books and pamphlets on the history of woman. |

| State. | City or Town. | Name of Library. | Gift or Bequest. | Source. | Amount in Money. | No. Vols. in Books and Pamphlets. | Building Valued at | Conditions or Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Massachusetts.. | Chatham..... | Chatham Public Library..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Not stated | ..... | Books valued at $10,000. |
| | Chelsea ..... .... | Chelsea Public Library ..... | Bequest.. | W. G. Wheeler.... .... | 5,000 | ..... | ..... | Income to be used. |
| | Cohasset..... | Cohasset Public Library..... | Bequest.. | Sarah Pratt..... | 1,000 | ... .... | ..... | Residue of the estate for new library building on expiration of life interests. |
| | Hyde Park..... | Phillips Brooks Memorial Library ..... | Gift..... | Mrs. E. F. Stetson..... | ..... | ..... | 4,000 | ..... |
| | Malden ..... | Malden Public Library..... | Gift..... | Mr. E. S. Converse .... | ..... | ..... | 70,000 | Addition to building. |
| | " ..... | " " " ..... | Gift..... | Various sources..... | ..... | ... .... | ..... | Bust of Mrs. Converse. |
| | Monson ..... | Monson Public Library..... | Bequest.. | Mrs. Horatio Lyon..... | 10,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | North Attleborough..... .. | Richards Memorial Library.. | Gift..... | Heirs of Edward & Lucy Richards. | ..... | ..... | Value not stated.. | ..... |
| | Norwood..... | Norwood Public Library..... | Gift..... | George M. Morrill and wife ..... | ..... | ..... | 25,000 | Memorial of Sarah Bond Morrill. |
| | Oxford..... | Oxford Public Library..... | Bequest.. | Mary S. T. Wallace.... | 1,500 | ..... | ..... | Will receive one-fifth of the residue of her estate when settled. |
| | Pepperell..... | Pepperell Public Library..... | Bequest.. | C. F. Lawrence... .... | 100,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Plymouth ..... | Plymouth Public Library.... | Bequest.. | W. G. Russell..... | 1,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Revere..... | Revere Public Library..... | Bequest.. | S. A. Hall..... | 1,500 | ..... | ..... | $1,000 towards a new library building; $500 for a soldiers' memorial tablet. |
| | Stoughton..... | Stoughton Public Library.... | Bequest.. | Henry L. Pierce ..... | 25,000 | ..... | ..... | For the purchase of books. |
| | Wrentham ..... | Wrentham Public Library ... | Gift..... | Children of Josiah J. Fiske ..... | 5,000 | ..... | 15,000 | For the purchase of books. |
| Missouri .. .... | Kansas City..... | Kansas City Public Library.. | Bequest.. | G. F. Shiedley..... | 25,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| NewHampshire | Center Harbor... | Center Harbor Library Association ..... | Gift..... | James E. Nichols ..... | 100 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | " ... | Center Harbor Library Association..... | Gift .. . | George W. Armstrong. | 25 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Lyme.. ..... | Turner Social Library ..... | Bequest.. | Sophronia C. Thompson | 500 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Lyndeborough... | Lyndeborough Public Library ..... | Bequest.. | Jotham Hildreth..... | 500 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | New Hampton... | New Hampton Free Library. | Bequest.. | Stephen Gordon Nash.. | ..... | ..... | 14,000 | ..... |
| | Newington. ..... | Langdon Library ..... | Gift..... | Woodbury Langdon ... | 500 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Salem..... | .... . ... .... ..... | Gift ..... | Various sources..... | 673 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Tamworth..... | ..... ..... | Gift..... | Mrs. E. C. Clark..... | ..... | 132 | ..... | ..... |
| | Wakefield..... | Wakefield Public Library.... | Gift..... | Seth Low..... | 150 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | " ..... | " " " .... | Gift..... | Various sources..... | 150 | ..... | ..... | .... ..... |
| | Weare..... | Weare Free Library ..... | Gift..... | Not stated ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,000 | Memorial building. |
| | Whitefield..... | Whitefield Public Library.... | Gift..... | Various sources..... | 150 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Wilton..... | Wilton Town Library..... | Bequest.. | George A. Nevell..... | 3,000 | 943 | ..... | Income to be devoted to the purchase of books. |
| New Jersey .... | Newark..... | Newark Public Library ..... | Bequest.. | A. Coles ... .. .. ..... | .... ... | ..... | ..... | Marble statue. |
| | Rutherford..... | Rutherford Free Library Association ..... | Gift..... | David B. Ivison..... | .... . | ..... | 10,000 | ..... |
| New York..... | Albion ..... | Albion Public Library..... | Bequest.. | William G. Swan ..... | 5,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Cambridge..... | Cambridge Union School Library ..... ..... ..... | Gift..... | ..... | ..... | 538 | ..... | From library of Rev. Walter Long. |
| | Canandaigua..... | Canandaigua Public Library. | Gift..... | Chas. A. Loomis..... | 2,000 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| | Cornwall-on Hudson ..... | New York Military Academy Library..... | Gift..... | ... ..... | ..... | 2,051 | ..... | From library of Col. Wright. |
| | Geneva ..... | Hobart College Library..... | Gift..... | A. L. Chew..... | 1,000 | ..... | ..... | Memorial of A. C. Coxe, jr., class of 1897. |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | Geneva | Hobart College Library | Gift | | 1,000 | | | Memorial of Henry May, class of 1897. |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | Peter Richards | 1,000 | | | |
| | Lima | Genesee Wesleyan Seminary Library | Gift | | | 700 | | From library of Zenas Hurd. |
| | Massapequa | DeLancey Floyd-Jones Free Library | Gift | DeLancey Floyd-Jones. | 2,700 | | | Building, books, and endowment. |
| | Mt. Vernon | Mt. Vernon Public Library | Gift | | | 449 | | Women of Mt. Vernon. |
| | New York | Columbia University Library. | Gift | Seth Low | | | $1,000,000 | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | S. P. Avery | $10,000 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Mrs. Samuel Lawrence; Mrs. James Swords | 6,000 | | | Alex. J. Cotheal fund for oriental books. |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Not stated | 10,000 | | | For books. |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Not stated | 6,000 | | | For library fund. Valuable Hebrew mss. |
| | " | New York Public Library | Gift | J. S. Kennedy | | 4,000 | | T. Addis Emmet collection of mss., engravings, and books on Am. Revolution; valued at $200,000. |
| | " | " " " " | Gift | J. S. Billings | | 2,000 | | Medical books. |
| | Olean | | | Citizens | 600 | | | |
| | Oyster Bay | Oyster Bay Public Library | Gift | Various sources | 4,400 | | | Land valued at $6,000. |
| | Poughkeepsie | Vassar College Library | Gift | John D. Rockefeller | | 2,700 | | |
| | Schenectady | Union College Library | Gift | | 400 | | | From graduates. |
| | Sing Sing | Sing Sing Public Library | Gift | William Ryder. | | 194 | | Also an unbound set of "Picturesque Europe." |
| | Southampton. | Rogers Memorial Library | Gift | | 5,250 | | | Endowment fund. |
| | Utica | Utica Public Library | Gift | Not stated | 3,000 | | | For completing the card catalog. |
| | Wappingers Falls | Grinnell Library | Gift | Irving Grinnell | 100 | | | |
| | Wellsville | Wellsville Public Library | Gift | | 125 | | | Endowment fund. |
| | Westport | Westport Library Association | Gift | Charles Head | 100 | | | |
| Ohio | Linwood | Joseph Ferris Memorial Library | Bequest | Phœbe Ferris | | | | Not stated. |
| | Lisbon | Lepper Library | | Mrs. C. W. Lepper | 10,000 | | | $5,000 for a building; $5,000 for books and furnishing; memorial to her husband. |
| Pennsylvania | Bellevue | Bellevue Public Library | Bequest | Mrs. Jane Bayne Teece. | 10,000 | | | Also land for park and public library on the death of her sister. |
| | Chester | | Bequest | Lewis Cuzer. | 250,000 | | | |
| | Lancaster | Franklin and Marshall College | | | 10,000 | | | An endowment for the purchase of books. |
| | Philadelphia | Apprentices' Library Co | Bequest | Elizabeth Schaffer. | 10,000 | | | |
| | " | Mercantile Library Co | Bequest | Elizabeth Schaffer. | 5,000 | | | |
| | South Bethlehem. | Lehigh University | Gift | Mrs. Eckley B. Coxe | | 8,000 | | Technical library of her husband. |
| | Towanda | | Gift | Not stated | 10,000 | | | |
| Rhode Island | Providence | Providence Public Library | Gift | John Nicholas Brown | 200,000 | | | To complete library building. |
| Texas | Austin | University of Texas | Gift | Swante Palm | | 25,000 | | Miscellaneous and art books. |
| Wisconsin | Beaver Dam | Williams Free Library | Bequest | J. J. Williams | 5,000 | | | For endowment. |
| | Dunn Co | Travelling Libraries | Gift | Hon. J. H. Stout | 2,500 | | | |
| | Menasha | Menasha Public Library | Gift | E. D. Smith | 500 | | | |
| | Milwaukee | Milwaukee Public Library | Gift | August Uihlein | 5,000 | | | To purchase books; as a memorial of his silver wedding. |
| | Racine | Racine Public Library | Gift | Stephen Bull | 500 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Bequest | M. B. Erskine | 1,000 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | William Horlick | 1,000 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Charles N. Lee | 500 | | | |
| | " | " " " | Gift | Various sources | 3,000 | | | |
| | Stevens Point | Stevens Point Public Library. | Gift | Ladies' Library Association. | | 1,200 | | |
| | Tomahawk | Travelling Libraries. | Gift | W. H. Bradley | 500 | | | |
| | Wood Co | Travelling Libraries | Gift | J. D. Witter | 1,400 | | | |

# THE PROCEEDINGS.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., MONDAY–FRIDAY, JUNE 21–25, 1897.

## *FIRST SESSION.*

(PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 21, 8.30 P.M.)

A RECEPTION was held in the rooms of the Historical Society, where the members of the Association were received with the most cordial hospitality, and where a delightful time was passed in social intercourse and in examining the many treasures of books, autographs, and manuscripts, displayed for the inspection of the visitors. The meeting was called to order by President Brett at 9.10, and a short address of welcome was made by Judge Samuel W. Pennypacker, vice-president of the Historical Society. Other short addresses were made by President Brett, S: S. Green, who spoke as a representative of the first A. L. A. conference, and Dr. William A. Pepper, who closed the session with a few words of cordial greeting. A supper was then served in the main hall, and the rest of the evening was spent in enjoyment of the social, bibliographical and hospitable delights of a delightful gathering.

## *SECOND SESSION.*

(AUDITORIUM OF THE DREXEL INSTITUTE, TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 22.)

The meeting was called to order at 9.30 by President W. H. BRETT, who, after a brief word of greeting, read

### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

(*See p.* 1.)

Mr. R. P. HAYES then read his

### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Early in December a number of the members of the A. L. A. were invited to Washington to appear before the committee on the Library of Congress.

The object of the investigation was to present to the committee the ideas of the librarians as to the future of the Library of Congress.

A special meeting of the Association was called at New York on Feb. 6, to consider the reincorporation of the A. L. A. under the laws of the United States. The meeting did not take any final action, but referred the matter to the regular meeting.

Mr. G. W. Cole resigned as treasurer, and the Executive Board elected Mr. C. K. Bolton to that office.

The Executive Board took prompt action with regard to the proposed tariff on books, protesting against the bill as presented, and suggesting changes which have been almost entirely incorporated in the bill now before the Senate.

Pres. BRETT. — The question of reincorporation, referred to at the special meeting mentioned in the secretary's report, will be discussed at a later session of the Association.

The secretary then read the

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Herewith I submit the annual report of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund.

No subscriptions have been received since that of Hon. P. T. Sexton, announced at the last conference, nor any other additions to the fund, except from interest on loans and deposits.

Allow me to suggest that the relations between the fund and the Publishing Section need further definition. Under §8 of the A. L. A. constitution the principal of the fund must be "invested and kept forever inviolate." In §16 it is stated that the Association is not liable for debts incurred by the Publishing Section. Without such liability it is doubtful whether the trustees can consider a loan to the Publishing Section as an investment within the provisions of the constitution, and they are, therefore, limited in making such loans to the amount of accrued interest.

Mr. Whitney, for the Finance Committee has examined the securities and vouchers of the trustees, on file here.

CHARLES C. SOULE.
*Treasurer of the Endowment Fund.*

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ENDOWMENT FUND CASH ACCOUNT.

RECEIVED.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sept. 1, 1896. | From E. C. Hovey, treasurer, | $1518.67 |
| Jan. 1, " | Interest at bank } not previously credited, | 6.14 |
| July 1, " | " " " } | 5.75 |
| Sept. 4, " | " on loan, | 30.00 |
| " 12, " | Contribution, P. T. Sexton, | 100.00 |
| Oct. 2, " | Interest on loan, | 24.50 |
| Dec. 19, " | " at bank, | 12.99 |
| Feb. 16, 1897. | " on loans | 68.00 |
| March 9, " | " " | 30.00 |
| " 29, " | " " | 4.33 |
| " " " | Principal of loan, repaid. | 1000.00 |
| April 2, " | Interest on loan, | 24.50 |
| | | $2824.88 |

PAID.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Nov. 20, 1896. | Loan to Publishing Section, | $250.00 |
| April 16, 1897. | Safe for securities, | 10.00 |
| May 14, " | Loan to Publishing Section, | 500.00 |
| June 8, " | Loan on mortgage 3 years, 6 per cent., | 2000.00 |
| " 15, " | Cash in bank, | 64.88 |
| | | $2824.88 |

ASSETS.

| | *Amount.* | *Annual Income.* |
|---|---|---|
| Mortgage notes bearing 6 per cent. interest, | $4300.00 | $258.00 |
| " " " 7 " " | 1100.00 | 77.00 |
| | | $335.00 |
| Loans to A. L. A. Publishing Section bearing 6 per cent. interest, | 1000.00 | 60.00 |
| Cash in International Trust Co., Boston, | 64.88 | |
| | $6464.88 | |

LIABILITIES: None.

Annual expenses : $10 for safe-deposit drawer.
[Other incidental expenses defrayed by trustees.]

BOSTON, June 15, 1897.

At the request of Mr. Charles C. Soule, Chairman of the Endowment Fund of the American Library Association, I have examined his accounts and securities, and find $64.88 on deposit in the International Trust Co., of Boston, with evidences of investments of five thousand four hundred dollars ($5400) in mortgage loans, and one thousand dollars ($1000) lent to the Publishing Section of the Association. I also find that the securities are properly kept in the Third National Bank Safe Deposit Co., Boston, in the name of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund of the American Library Association.

JAMES L. WHITNEY,
*Chairman of Finance Committee.*

*Voted.* — That the report of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund be accepted and laid over for further consideration.

W: I. FLETCHER, chairman of the Publishing Section, read Mr. W: C. LANE's

REPORT OF THE PUBLISHING SECTION.

(*See p.* 84.)

W: I. FLETCHER. — I do not think I violate any confidence when I tell you that in a private letter of Mr. Iles, he states that he is willing to pay $1000 toward the publication of an annotated bibliography of American history, the book to contain 1000 titles or thereabouts. Perhaps I had better not read the rest of his letter, in which he states whom he expects to do the work of general editor of the History list ; but I think if I did tell you upon whom he was depending, you would agree with me that he is the right man in exactly the right place.

I think we ought not to overlook Mr. Iles'

generous offer to contribute $1000 out of his own pocket to see this work done.

There seems to be some little difference between Mr. Lane's report and the report of the Endowment Fund Trustees as to the loan made by the Endowment Fund Trustees to the Publishing Section. I think there ought to be a better definition in our constitution with regard to this matter. Mr. Lane understood that the loan to the Publishing Section was made from income, but Mr. Soule in the report states that it is made from principal. That is a very serious difference ; partly a difference of judgment, however, as to how it should be counted.

Reference has been made in Mr. Lane's report to the change in the constitution of the Publishing Section, by which it is made more strictly than before a section of the Association ; that is to say, the amendment presented last year and voted upon favorably without any opposition, only awaits favorable action this year in order to become a part of our constitution. It is necessary that favorable action should be taken two years in succession in order to amend the constitution, and we ought to take action upon that amendment at this meeting.

H: L. Elmendorf. — In moving that this very interesting report be received and filed, I can but express my sorrow that it is not in print and in the hands of every member of the Association, as was the plan last year. We have listened with pleasure to the interesting details of this report, but I do not think there is anybody in the room that grasps at present the importance of it. This brings to our notice the question as to whether such reports as this should not in future be printed before the meeting of the Association, so that we may have them before us for discussion.

*Voted.* — That the report of the Publishing Section be accepted.

The secretary read the amendment to the constitution of the Publishing Section :

"The Publishing Section shall consist of five members appointed by the Executive Board for terms of not more than three years. Its object shall be to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes and other bibliographic and library aids as it may approve.

"The Section shall annually appoint from its own number a chairman, secretary, and treasurer.

"No moneys shall be paid by the treasurer except with the written approval of three other members of the Section, and no work shall be undertaken except by a vote of a majority of the whole Section.

"The treasury of the Section is entirely distinct from that of the Association, and the Association is not liable for any debts incurred by the Section. With the approval of the Finance Committee money may be appropriated from the treasury of the Association for the running expenses, but the Section depends on the endowment fund as the financial basis of its undertakings.

"The Section shall report in writing at each annual meeting of the American Library Association."

Pres. Brett. — This section as read is the amendment adopted a year ago?

W: I. Fletcher. — Yes, sir ; and in order to make it a part of the constitution, an amendment must receive a favorable vote of the Association at two successive regular meetings. That amendment was passed at the annual session a year ago, and I move its final passage now. *Voted.*

Dr. Cyrus Adler. — I move that the American Library Association gratefully recognizes the generous action of Mr. Iles in forwarding the work of the Publishing Section.

H: L. Elmendorf. — I second the motion of Dr. Adler, and wish to say that although the value of the two bibliographies may be equal, undoubtedly the sale of the historical bibliography will be largely in excess of that covering the fine arts. And in seconding the motion, I would like to have it amended, that the generous offer of Mr. Iles be accepted as soon as the Publishing Section feel themselves in a position to take up the work. I believe that this historical bibliography is going to be of great value and great use to the Association. Mr. Iles is, to my personal knowledge, making every effort to get the most accomplished editors and the most efficient help in making it, and is prepared to push it as soon as the Section feels itself in a position to take up the work. Mr. Iles, as you all know, is deeply interested in this annotation of literature, and he is willing to take it up and push it to the advantage of us all.

The amendment was accepted, and it was *Voted.* — That the American Library Association

gratefully recognizes the generous action of Mr. Iles in forwarding the work of the Publishing Section, and that his offer be accepted, to be carried into effect as soon as the Publishing Section shall think best to do so.

PRINTING OF PAPERS AND REPORTS.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — I move that the secretary be instructed to have this report printed immediately and placed in the hands of the members of the Association before this conference adjourns. *Voted.*

G. M. JONES. — I do not see what can be gained by having this report printed. We shall be obliged to leave all the details that are brought up in it entirely to the Publishing Section. They are the best judges as to what ought to be done, and what is practicable to be done.

T. GUILFORD SMITH. — I am very glad that the motion to have it printed is made. I thought that the action of the Cleveland conference was that the reports should be printed, and that they should be in the hands of members so that we could follow the chairman in reading the report. As that has not been done, and was not so understood, the motion to have it printed at once for the use of this conference seems to be the proper thing.

I call for the question which I think was passed and not yet announced.

W: I. FLETCHER. — It seems to me highly proper that the officers of the Section should be heard from, for, I am sure, they would all agree with me in saying that nobody could wish that this report should be printed and placed in your hands as soon as possible more than we do, for if there is anything that we want as a committee it is that you should know all about it and understand it and back it up. How you are going to back it without understanding it, I do not know ; how you are going to understand it without reading it, I cannot see.

The president announced that the vote was passed. A motion to reconsider was lost ; and it was *Voted.* — That further action on the report be deferred until the report should be printed and in the hands of members.

THORVALD SOLBERG. — If further discussion of the report is out of order, is it out of order to bring up the general proposition to have these reports ordered printed, so that when we meet in conference we shall have them in our hands ? That seems to be an ordinary proceeding in all other conferences, so that the members shall have time to digest the reports. I would like to know whether it is in order now to move that all reports be printed in advance of the meeting ?

Pres. BRETT. — I think this is an important matter, and it would be well to carefully prepare a motion expressing exactly what the Association wants to have done. It is quite necessary that some reports should be printed, while many others need not be printed. I would be very glad if those who are interested in the matter would prepare and present to this Association a resolution that would express exactly their opinion on that matter.

The secretary read the

REPORT OF THE CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE.

(*See p.* 81.)

*Voted.* — That the report of the Co-operation Committee be accepted and recorded.

ENDOWMENT FUND.

S: S. GREEN. — It has seemed to me that, as we have an endowment fund, of which I know very little, some action is necessary in regard thereto. I move that the Trustees of the Endowment Fund be requested to present an itemized list of the investments of the fund in their annual report.

The motion of Mr. Green was carried.

The secretary read the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Public Documents has this year but little to report as to legislation. The supplementary bill prepared by Superintendent Crandall to complete the work of the Public Documents Act of 1895, referred to in the last report of this committee, and approved by the Association at the Cleveland conference, failed to become a law. It passed the House of Representatives, but was never reported from the Printing Committee of the Senate. It must, therefore, be introduced as a new bill in the present Congress.

Of 10 bills referring to public documents, introduced at the last session of the 54th Congress, including that aboved noted, but one became a law. This was the bill providing for the preparation by Dr. J. G. Ames, who is named in the bill, of a "comprehensive index" like that prepared by him for 1889–93, cover-

ing the publications of the government from 1881, the date of the Poore catalog, to 1893. This was not entirely approved by the library profession, as Mr. Crandall's catalog had meantime set a much higher standard, but it passed both houses and was approved by the President on March 3.

Since the last conference two important volumes have been published, in accordance with the provisions of the new law, from Superintendent Crandall's office. The first is the "comprehensive catalog" of publications, both congressional and departmental, during the period of the 53d Congress; the second is the "consolidated index" for the first session of the 54th Congress. The first-named has been received as so far the best model of cataloging for government publications, and the second is a vast improvement over the previous cumbrous and costly system of indexing. Mr. Crandall's second annual report, for the year ending June 30, 1896, was issued in January last, and is also an important contribution to the literature of the subject. It gives a very careful statistical statement as to depository libraries and government publications.

The bill proposed by the Congressional Library Committee with reference to the Library of Congress was not passed, but the Appropriations bill covered provision for the removal of the Library of Congress, and, happily, for the separation of the Copyright Bureau as a distinct division of the library. The report of the Joint Committee on Library, issued as Senate report 1573, 54th Congress, second session, includes a verbatim statement of the evidence at the several hearings, at which librarians were represented, and a tabular comparison of the force and expenditure in the Library of Congress, compared with those in other national libraries.

There is little further to report for the present year as to state publications. A list of state publications for the period July 1, 1890 to June 30, 1895, has been printed as an appendix to the "American catalogue" for that period and also separately issued, and a copy is appended to this report.

R. R. Bowker,
W. A. Bardwell, } *Committee.*
F. B. Gay,

The report was accepted and ordered recorded.

W. I. Fletcher. — I wish to give notice of my intention a little later, when it can be done with due form, to present a resolution expressive of the attitude of the American Library Association towards the work of the Public Documents Office.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE DR. WILLIAM F. POOLE MEMORIAL FUND.

Dr. G. E. Wire, secretary, made the following verbal statement: We have succeeded in collecting about $465, and expect to raise at this session of the conference sufficient to make the fund $500.

We have had plans submitted for the Memorial, but did not want to close the contract until we had the money in sight. The expectation was that a considerable part of the sum would be raised in Chicago, and I did a good deal of personal work this winter on that line, but it was after the election and before prosperity came, and the consequence was that although I got some money I did not get as much as I expected. I thought I would be able to show you a picture of the Memorial at this meeting, but it was impossible to do so in the condition of affairs.

The report was accepted and the committee continued.

J. N. Wing. — This movement started at Lake Placid, and I think it has been going on quite long enough. The committee have tried time and time again sending out circulars, and we still lack the sum of $35. I move that we take a recess of five minutes, and that four tellers be appointed to go around this meeting to collect the money needed.

The motion of Mr. Wing was carried, and the president appointed as tellers Mr. Wing, Mr. Stevenson, Miss Lord, and Miss Sharp. At the end of the recess of five minutes Dr. Wire announced that the collection amounted to $44.

The following is an itemized statement of the fund:

| | |
|---|---|
| In bank, . . . . | $435.00 |
| Received cash, . . . | 8.00 |
| Subscriptions, . . . | 10.00 |
| Employes' fund of Chicago Public Library, . . . | 20.00 |
| | $473.00 |
| Amount raised by collection, | 44.80 |
| | $517.80 |

J: C. DANA, in the absence of the chairman, J. G. WHITTIER, read the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE AID.

Few changes have been made in library legislation in the United States in the last 10 months, but public interest in libraries as a part of the educational system of every state is increasing.

No bills establishing library commissions or travelling libraries, or offering state aid, have ever been reported from Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, or Washington. Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin, had before last year's report (*L. J.* 21: C68) a library commission, travelling libraries or some form of state aid.

Bills providing for the establishment of library commissions or travelling libraries have been under discussion or brought before this year's legislature in California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Kentucky, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania. A bill was before the Colorado legislature providing for a commission, but was lost. The Minnesota bill was recommended in the Senate, but opposed in the House by an enlightened representative, who thought that "it was not within the province of the legislature to supply the people with books any more than it was with boots; that circulation of travelling libraries would be a slow process; that they could not easily be sent from one part of the state to another; and that the whole thing was really a scheme for some dealer to job off a lot of books." In Nebraska a bill was presented providing for travelling libraries and a library commission, but failed. In New Jersey, a similar bill passed the legislature, but was vetoed by the governor. Wisconsin has made a greater advance than any other state, adding $240,000 to the $180,000 voted two years ago for the State Historical Society and State University Library. The annual appropriation to the State Historical Society is also increased by $10,000, and the general law in regard to free public libraries amended until a common council or village board may establish a library without a popular vote, but the money appropriated must be expended by a library board. City superintendents of schools are made *ex-officio* members of public library boards, which make contracts with town or county boards regarding the lending of library books. A bill has been passed extending the work of the library commission, appropriating $4000 a year for its work, and authorizing the appointment of a paid secretary and assistant. Through the generosity of Senator Stout and other friends the commission has received more than $4000 for travelling libraries.

Massachusetts has established 85 free libraries since the Public Library Commission was appointed in 1890, Connecticut 40 since 1891, New Hampshire 130 since the same year, Vermont 59 since 1894.

The report was accepted and ordered recorded.

The secretary read the summary of the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

(*See p.* 90.)

The report was accepted and ordered recorded.

The secretary read the

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN LIBRARIES CLEARING-HOUSE.

*Majority report.*

Your committee beg leave to report that after communicating with the Bureau of Education and the Superintendent of Public Documents at Washington, it is found that neither office is desirous of adding to its present heavy burdens the task of establishing and conducting a system of clearance and exchange between the libraries of the country. Such being their attitude, the committee deemed it inexpedient for the Association to further urge the matter, so far as they are concerned.

Your committee, however, are of the opinion that such a system of exchange is highly desirable. It has been suggested that such systems be established in each state, upon a state basis, with the state library as the centre, as is done in New York; but it is evident that there are few state libraries so conducted or so equipped that they can or will carry on this work, which is essentially of a missionary character, with little apparent or immediate benefit to the state library itself. Your committee are of the opinion that although working admirably in New

York, successful state systems would be few in number and ordinarily of limited scope. Even were they in general operation, there would soon be a demand for a national clearing-house for the various state systems.

In the opinion of the committee, the work appertaining to the work of a national clearing-house for libraries, as suggested, could best be undertaken by the national library, when that library is fully reorganized. It ought to be possible, through such a system, for the author of a pamphlet or monograph to send a considerable number of his publication to the national library by freight or express, with the assurance that persons expert in such matters will distribute these by government frank to those libraries throughout the country where they will be most welcome and where they will do the most good. Many public institutions and associations issuing reports or papers, would be glad, in addition to their own mailing lists, to send several copies of each report or paper to the national library, and thus take advantage of its clearing-house system. It would be feasible for such institutions and associations as collect files of the publications of similar enterprises, to arrange, through the clearing-house, for a fair exchange from the duplicate stock of the clearing-house. Individuals and libraries possessing duplicates could readily send to the clearing-house such as they might wish to spare for exchange, and be assured of equitable treatment at the hands of the latter. Lists could be published, monthly or quarterly, of such accumulations as have been made; and, under the principle of "first come, first served," exchanges could be arranged upon the basis of similar lists issued by individuals or libraries desiring to exchange. This last-mentioned method is one already in actual use between some of the largest libraries in the country, and their experience could freely be drawn upon for the details of a more elaborate system.

The need of a national clearing-house is evident to the managers of reference libraries who have given any thought to the matter; the methods of spasmodic exchange are well established through long practice, and need but slight modification and expansion to meet the proposed national system; that many of the authors, organizations, libraries, and miscellaneous institutions of the United States, and possibly of Canada and Mexico, would be glad, as soon as they were confident of its being skilfully managed, to take advantage of such a system is evident; the points remaining are only of detail. The new national library appears to your committee as the logical centre of such a movement; it has abundant room, and doubtless will have abundant service. The system will fail if allowed to sink into the ruts of perfunctory officialism; it must be managed by an expert reference librarian, who has a broad range of knowledge, who is possessed of detailed information relative to the needs of the several libraries of the country, who has the enthusiasm of the collector, and the rare gift of what we call "executive ability." With such a man or woman at its head, a library clearing-house bureau could and should be established at the national library, which will be a blessing to every reference librarian in America.

REUBEN G. THWAITES, *Chairman.*
J. F. LANGTON.

MAY, 1897.

*Minority report.*

I am not sufficiently agreed upon the subject itself to endorse the report of the Committee on American Libraries Clearing-House, advocating the management of a clearing-house by the Library of Congress, in spite of the good argument presented by the committee in so seductive a light.

It has not been possible for me to convince myself that it is any part of the function of the government to assist the librarian to the knowledge of ephemeral private publications, much less to supply him with such publications gratuitously. The government is already carrying on a large clearing-house plant in its international exchange system, the office of the Superintendent of Documents, the exchange system of the Geological Survey, etc.

With the Library of Congress already overburdened with difficulties, the copyright system inadequately provided for, the document problem yet in chaos — all matters of greater moment to libraries than the free distribution of private pamphlets — the futility of any recommendation at the present time involving additional labor in any of these departments, forces itself upon me, and prevents agreement with the report of the committee.

ADELAIDE R. HASSE.

Col. WESTON FLINT. — Before these reports are received, placed on file and published, I think proper to state, as all may not fully understand, that one part of the last report I should hardly think would be taken in full, namely, what is said about the provisions about the new Library of Congress. After the first of July, it may be said that almost certainly there will be full provision of force to do almost any work that will be required of the library in the future. With regard to the question of difficulties, preparation may be required, but there is a large force and large preparation for carrying on the work of the library.

Dr. J: S. BILLINGS. — The force provided for the Congressional Library will be fully occupied for at least five years in cataloging and arranging the documents packed away in boxes and which have never been opened. I am very much more in sympathy with the views expressed in the minority report than those of the majority report. The recommendations in the form made appear to me to be entirely impracticable, and I should regret seeing the American Library Association making recommendations to any government department which would on the face of them, and to those who are familiar with the workings of the department, be seen to be impracticable. If, however, it is desired merely that these reports be printed and not be considered as endorsed by the Association, I see no objection to that action.

Both reports of the Committee on American Libraries Clearing-House were received and ordered recorded, and the committee was continued for further report at next meeting.

### INVITATIONS FOR CONFERENCE OF 1898.

The secretary announced that invitations for the next meeting of the Association had been received from Omaha, Neb., Lincoln, Neb., Jamestown, N. Y., and Pine Bluff, N. C.

### EXPENSES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Sec. HAYES. — At a meeting of the Executive Board held in December, the following resolution was adopted — That it is the opinion of the members of this board that the American Library Association, at its meeting in June, 1897, should arrange for the payment in the future of the expenses of the members of the board in attending meetings, and should make a proper allowance for the expenses of the secretary. I think that would be proper business for our meeting on Thursday.

### PRINTING OF PAPERS AND REPORTS.

Pres. BRETT. — If any one has a resolution ready on the question of printing certain papers in advance of the assembling of the meeting in the future, I should be pleased to entertain it.

S: H. RANCK. — I desire to offer the following resolution — *Resolved*, That in future there shall be printed in advance and placed in the hands of the members at the annual conference all such reports and papers as the Program Committee may deem advisable.

W: W. BISHOP. — Is there any understanding as to who is to print these reports? The resolution does not provide for that. Is there anything in the constitution to provide by whom they shall be printed? This resolution does not oblige any committee to present a written report. It leaves the thing wholly in the hands of the Program Committee. It seems to me that all the reports presented this morning by committees might as well have been in printed form for our consideration and adoption before we came here. The Program Committee must be burdened with work, and it would seem that a resolution providing that standing committees shall have their reports printed would answer the purpose better than the one read.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — I would like to speak in favor of the original motion. It seems to me that this must be in the hands of the Program Committee. It is very difficult to secure written reports from committees, as I have realized, and to secure printed ones would be much more difficult. I want to insist further upon the necessity of printing these reports in advance. As an instance of that I would cite the Gifts and Bequests report of this morning. We are all interested in the gifts and bequests to libraries, and in presenting the report it was requested that if there were any omissions they would be properly reported. We are thus asked to supply omissions in a report which we have neither seen, nor heard read, and in which at the same time we are very much interested. That report is a very important one, and when it appears in print it should be a complete and perfect one. If the preliminary paper as presented to our Association were given to us before the meeting each year, it would give every member of

the Association the necessary opportunity to supply deficiencies, and to make this report what it should be when it is published in the final proceedings.

S: S. GREEN. — I move as a substitute for the resolution before us, that the Executive Board see to it that such reports as they may deem desirable be printed and placed in the hands of the members before the meeting of the Association.

H. J. CARR. — I think I can safely say that no harm can come from the adoption of this resolution. It will be an advantage to us for another reason — §2 of our by-laws says:

"No paper shall be read before a meeting of the Association till it has been examined by the board or a Program Committee appointed by it, which shall decide whether it is to be read entire or by abstract, or to be submitted for printing in full or abstract, or rejected."

The adoption of this resolution will tend to enforce and expedite the enforcement of this article, and will enable the Program Committee or Executive Board to carry out the terms of that by-law more effectively.

The substitute offered by Mr. Green was accepted by Mr. Ranck, and it was *Voted* — That in the future there shall be printed in advance, to be placed in the hands of the members at the annual conference, all such reports and papers as the Executive Board may deem advisable.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

The president appointed as a Committee on Resolutions: W: T. Peoples, Miss Hannah P. James, and Arthur W. Tyler.

Adjourned at 12, noon.

## *THIRD SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 22.)

The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m., Vice-president J. K. HOSMER in the chair.

J. K. HOSMER. — The president has devolved his functions upon me for this afternoon. From the programs which you hold in your hands, you will notice that the business of the afternoon is the discussion of "Books of the year." Before, however, we proceed to the discussion, we will hear the report of the chairman of the committee in charge of the subject, Miss Mary S. Cutler.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUPPLEMENT TO "CATALOG OF A. L. A. LIBRARY."

Your committee have carried on the work of the year with enthusiasm for the importance and increasing faith in the possibilities of the task assigned us. A growing sense of the magnitude and delicate nature of the task impresses us with the necessity of viewing the work critically, and of planning wisely and definitely for its future development. The experience of three years leads the present committee to form the following judgments:

1. The value of its decisions will be increased by enlarging the responsibility of the committee. From the nature of the case, the Association as a whole is not competent to prepare a book-list which would be of any special value. If the democratic principle is followed in the selection of books, my vote on a work in chemical technology, a subject of which I am totally ignorant, counts equal to the vote of the librarian of the John Crerar Library, an acknowledged expert in this line. A list of fiction, a class more familiar than any other to the members, selected by show of hands in open meeting, when each vote is unduly influenced by the magnetism or prestige of the latest speaker, would command respect neither within nor without the Association. The preparation of the Supplement must be entrusted to a committee of librarians, each member of which is willing to give time and thought to personal examination of books and to consultation with the other judges.

2. This committee must specialize. In order to select books wisely on a given subject, one must have a fair knowledge of the subject. It is impossible, therefore, that each member of the committee should be competent to judge of the merit of books in all departments. This was recognized last year, and the entire choice of books in useful arts, electricity, and medicine was delegated to individuals. This year, only fiction, literature, and general works were judged by the entire committee.

3. The committee must be assisted by many other librarians and by specialists. The names of those who have rendered such assistance this year will be found on page 2 of the Supplement, which you hold in your hand. It is much to have secured the co-operation of such men as Prof. J. W. Jenks of Cornell, Prof. C.

M. Andrews of Bryn Mawr, Prof. H. B. Adams of Johns Hopkins. The present conception of the library as a part of the educational system of the state makes the work of this committee of such importance as to give us a right to ask and expect help from the best educators.

This plan of gaining assistance from other librarians involves the development, on the part of many librarians, of an expert judgment in some one subject. The students of the New York State Library School are encouraged to be ambitious and to hope that several years' hard work along some line of study which they have pursued in college, and for which they have a natural fitness, may earn for them places as expert advisers of the A. L. A. selection committee.

4. Individuals must acknowledge responsibility for their votes. To illustrate: The subjects of history and travel were assigned this year to Mr. Larned and Mr. Thwaites, of the committee. Prof. Andrews, Prof. Adams, and Prof. Hosmer were associated with them. In their independent vote, suppose these judges agree on seven-eighths of the books. Suppose that, after correspondence and full consultation, they agree on one-half of the remainder, but that on the remaining one-sixteenth, say eight books, there is still a decided disagreement. If, for example, Mr. Larned stands alone in disapproval of a single book, his initials should appear after the title to signify this fact. It should be understood that every book on the history list has the full approval of the five history experts, except as initials after individual titles indicate individual disapproval. This plan would involve more thorough work than has ever yet been done in co-operative selection.

5. A basis of selection should be decided upon and carefully stated. This should be the special work of the next few months, and it should form an introduction to the coming five-year Supplement. There should be a statement of the general principles of selection, and also a statement of those that underlie the selection in particular subjects. The principles of selection of children's books would inevitably, because of the nature of the books and the readers, differ materially from the principles governing in sociology or philosophy. The application of principles that have been fully stated will result in clearer thinking and a more careful scrutiny of books. The committee will be able to justify their choice in special cases, and to forestall criticism on the part of authors, publishers, or classes of readers.

To state again these five points:

1. The responsibility of the committee must be enlarged.
2. The committee must specialize.
3. The committee must be assisted by other librarians and specialists.
4. Individuals must acknowledge responsibility for their votes.
5. A basis of selection must be decided upon and carefully stated.

We submit to the Association these judgments as to the best means of increasing the efficiency of this work. We believe that co-operative selection by the A. L. A. will become a more and more important feature of its work, that it will win the respect and help of educators and specialists, and that it will in the future not only eliminate worthless literature from our public libraries and substitute the best, but that it will act powerfully toward the suppression of what is crude and mean and vicious in book production.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY S. CUTLER, *Chairman*,
J. N. LARNED,
FREDERICK M. CRUNDEN,
GARDNER M. JONES,
} *Committee.*

*Voted.* — That the report of the committee be received and recorded.

The discussion of the various classes of literature was opened by the presentation of

FINE ARTS.

Miss HANNAH P. JAMES. — Walter Crane's "Decorative illustration of books" is one of the first books on the list. Crane's name is sufficient to guarantee that it is a good book, and he has treated the subject very well. The first part is historical, the rest descriptive and critical; there are many illustrations.

Fletcher and Banister's "History of architecture" is a most excellent book for students; it is comparative, taking each country and giving a review of the geography, religion and state of society, and then giving the history of the architecture of the successive periods. In describing the Gothic buttresses, for instance, three illustrations are shown of the different

modes of its use in different buildings, and details are given with full illustrations.

Holden's "Audiences" is a suggestive and stimulating book, challenging thought and suggesting to immature or prejudiced minds the wisdom of looking and listening intelligently and fairly.

Hoppin's "Greek art on Greek soil" is a book of exceptional interest and value, treating of the present condition of Greece, with a full knowledge of its past, its history, art, games, social life and literature.

Mathews' "Story of architecture" is an excellent work for the beginner, as it gives a bird's-eye view of the whole subject, including China, India and Japan, Western Asia, Egypt, Europe, Mexico, Central and South America, and finally the United States; it is fully illustrated and a well written and reliable book.

Muther's "History of modern painting," in three large volumes, covers a great deal of ground, and is trustworthy and accurate. The first part is philosophical and historical, tracing sources and influences, and laying the foundation for the specific and practical treatment given in the later volumes.

Santayana's "Sense of beauty" is a course of lectures delivered at Harvard. They are marked by a rare insight and æsthetic feeling, and are a valuable contribution to the literature of æsthetics, being one of the best books on the subject this year.

Russell Sturgis's "European architecture" is a valuable book, going into details and treating the science of architecture. It is fully illustrated, and is readable as well as carefully scientific.

Tarbell's "History of Greek art," one of the Chautauqua series, is considered an excellent text-book on architecture, sculpture and painting, and an admirable work for beginners; it has nearly 200 illustrations.

There are two other titles that I wish to suggest for the list. It is only within a year or two that I happened to discover the "Art annuals," published by the *Art Journal*, one at Easter and one at Christmas. They are monographs on celebrated painters, similar in shape and size to the *Art Journal*, and they cost 50 cents apiece. Some of the artists treated are Millais, Alma-Tadema, Leighton, Breton, Watts, Fildes, Herkimer, Hunt, Burne-Jones, Rossetti, and a dozen more. There must be at least 50 or 75 illustrations, and the monographs are very interesting and valuable.

Then there is Henry Holiday's "Stained glass as an art," published by Macmillan at $6.50. This is one of the best books on the subject, treating of the art practically and æsthetically, covering design, style, the influence of form and space, and illustrated by 64 plates and cuts. It is written by a practical worker who is thoroughly posted.

GARDNER M. JONES. — I have marked four books that I think ought not to go into this list. The first is Du Maurier's "English society"; the second Gibson's "Pictures of people." These are mere picture-books, and I do not believe in putting mere picture-books on this list. Leighton's "Addresses delivered to the students of the Royal Academy" seems to me very limited in its interest, excepting to those interested in Leighton. Thompson's "Hand-in-hand figure skating" is rather an English book, and more exhaustive than is needed on so small a subject.

I have quite a list of books that I think ought to go into this list, and that for some unaccountable reasons have dropped out. I will name a few of them. There is a very handsome book by Rose, "Lawns and gardens," one of the handsomest books on landscape-gardening lately published. The next one is "Sculptured tombs of Hellas," by Gardiner, an eminent author and one of the assistants in the British Museum, I believe. The next is Meyer's "Handbook of art-smithing," a German work, dealing with all kinds of ornamental metal-work, published by Hessling. The next is a very good little manual on "China-painting," by Mrs. N. di R. Monachesi. Holiday's "Stained glass" has already been spoken of; Jackson's "Mechanical drawing" seems to be a practical little book; it contains a great many plates, and is inexpensive. In Amusements, Boardman's "Winning whist" seems to be a book that should be on the list, because it combines the old-fashioned long-suit play with the new short-suit play which is coming into use. I cannot understand why a book on foot-ball, by the two great experts, has not been put on the list, namely Camp and Deland's "Foot-ball"; so also McPherson's "Hare and red deer," and Sharp's "Bicycles and tricycles," which I believe is the only book treating of the design and construction of bicycles, should be included.

J. K. HOSMER. — It seems to me quite worth while to mention the remarkable munificence of an East Indian potentate by which many American libraries have profited during the last year. It became known throughout America that the Maharajah of Jeypore was prepared to present portfolios of architectural details to libraries all through the civilized world. Applications, I think, were quite numerously made from America. My own library made application, and a few months ago these portfolios came. Each one contains some hundreds of plates of architectural details, bringing out the most beautiful features of East Indian architecture, prepared by native pupils in Hindostan. We felt that it was the most considerable gift that we received during the last year. I think other libraries have profited in the same way.

Mr. T: L. MONTGOMERY then introduced books in

SCIENCE.

T: L. MONTGOMERY. — I call your attention in the first place to a mistake in the report of the Cleveland conference. On page 136 of the report it is stated that the "Text-book of geology," by Geikie, was put in the "A. L. A. catalog." I had not mentioned the "Text-book," but the "Class-book of geology," which is an adaptation, of course, from the "Text-book," but rather shorter, and is, I think, a very much more profitable book for a small library. The report is also in error as to Koehner's "Systematic botany"; that should be Kerner von Marilaun's "Natural history of plants."

With regard to the books on the present list: Abbott's "Birdland echoes" is not a scientific book, but is much more orderly in its arrangement than is usually the case with this author. The illustrations, however, give rather the idea of stuffed birds than of the natural species.

Bonney's "Ice work, past and present" is suitable for advanced students, but covers only ice work in Great Britain, only 10 pages being given to America. It is well written but poorly illustrated.

Dana's "Plants and their children" is a very excellent book for children and young persons; interesting and accurate.

Furneaux's "Life in ponds and streams" is a most excellent book, admirably illustrated.

Mathews' "Familiar trees and their leaves" is a most useful book. It has very good illustrations, drawn from nature by the author, and the text reveals the æsthetic as well as the scientific side of the subject.

Thompson's "Roentgen rays" is the best book on that subject issued during the year.

Witchell's "Evolution of bird-song" treats of a subject not hitherto handled systematically, by an author who has been 15 years collecting his data; the plates are poor.

Of other books mentioned, Bates's "Game birds of North America" is useful only as a check list; Howe's "Every bird" is useful for the beginner; it gives outline drawings of the head and foot of each genus and a general description of the plumage.

Merriam's "A-birding on a bronco," being notes on birds taken in Southern California, is well written, but not of much use scientifically.

Lubbock's "Scenery of Switzerland and causes to which it is due" is a well illustrated book by a scientifically disposed man. It is a geological treatise on the region, and has a very good map.

Geikie's "Ancient volcanoes of Great Britain" appears to be about the best book on the subject. It is a splendid work, most gratifying as to printing, illustrations and maps, giving an historical account of the scientific treatment of the subject of volcanoes, and has a most useful preface.

I should judge that of this list it would not be worth while to put upon the permanent list anything more than Bonney's "Ice work," Britton's "Illustrated flora," Abbott's "Birdland echoes," Dana's "Plants and their children," Furneaux's "Life in ponds and streams," Geikie's "Ancient volcanoes of Great Britain," Mathews' "Familiar trees and their leaves," Thompson's "Roentgen rays," and Witchell's "Evolution of bird-song." I should like to call to your attention, as an addition to this list, W. B. Scott's "Introduction to geology," published by Macmillan. It is based on Geikie, but is a much more useful book for American students, on account of the very excellent American illustrations and the care with which it has been prepared for a manual or a text-book.

Miss M. S. CUTLER. — I would like to ask Mr. Montgomery if he is criticising this list with the idea that it is made on the basis of the original "A. L. A. catalog"?

T: L. MONTGOMERY. — Undoubtedly.

J. N. LARNED. — I think that is not the basis for criticism. The idea that has controlled the

committee in making up the supplemental list last year and this year was a different one. It was explained at the meeting last year, but probably needs explanation here. It is not the intention to simply make the selection of books for a small library, but to make, if possible, a check-list of books for all libraries — a list from which the books that librarians need pay no attention to could be excluded; and it seems to me on that basis several of the books you have ruled out would possibly belong in the list.

T: L. MONTGOMERY. — That might be so, in that case; but I should think it would be very much easier, from a general point of view, to hold to the plan of the original A. L. A. list, which was so good. I think we make a mistake in not drawing the line very close and keeping out books that do not properly belong in the list.

J. N. LARNED. — That was a very different matter; there we were selecting from books of all time, here we are selecting from current publications, and it seems to me that the basis should be broader in this case.

T: L. MONTGOMERY. — I would take issue on that. If you go back and pick out certain books from the books of all time, we want, from the books that are now published, only those that will compare with the books of all time.

J. N. LARNED. — There are very many reasons for buying books of the day that would not apply when they cease to be books of the day; and every library is buying books published this year on a given subject that it would not buy 10 years hence.

T: L. MONTGOMERY. — But, in adding to this list, we have to compare each book that we add to it with the literature that is past, and there may be a great many that were omitted from the original selection that were a great deal better than any on this list. Therefore, I think, if the line is not drawn very close you are going to make a mistake in regard to additions to the list.

J. K. HOSMER. — There is a book by Edward Clodd, "Pioneers of evolution from Thales to Huxley," which I think is well worth buying. The fact that scientific information is put in the form of biographies makes it exceedingly interesting reading.

We will now take up the next topic, History, and Mr. J. N. Larned will open the discussion.

HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY, TRAVEL.

J. N. LARNED. — I understand that History, as we consider it in this matter, is taken in the broad meaning that would include Biography and Travel also. This makes a large list to be considered, and it will have to be gone through very rapidly. I am glad that the subject does include Biography and Travel, because otherwise it would certainly be a very slender list for the year. There has not been, I think, the usual extent of important production of historical writing during the last year. There have not been very many notable books; and if we should exclude those on biography and travel we should have but a brief list.

The first book under History on our list is Lecky's "Political value of history," a lecture given at Birmingham, which is distinctly of great value. It presents very clearly and accurately some important ideas with regard to the influence which the study of history should have upon our views and our opinions; it combats, on the one hand, the Carlylean hero-worship, which would make everything of personal influence in history, and, on the other hand, the Buckle theories, which would reduce personal influence to nothing, and make all historical movements a matter of mechanics and mathematics. This book is a valuable and important correction of those extremely wrong theories in two directions.

Mahaffy's "Survey of Greek civilization" is a compend of his larger works on those subjects, and a very useful one.

Maspero's "Struggle of the nations," presumably the second volume of his "Ancient history," may be considered the best summary now to be had of the results of later research and study in the history of ancient times and ancient nations.

Adams' "Growth of the French nation," in the "Chautauqua Reading circle series," is an admirable little book.

C. M. Andrews' "Historical development of modern Europe" is a valuable book for the reason that it goes over the ground which Fyffe traversed in a different way, and a way which is both interesting and instructive, dealing with the history of Europe as a whole, and gathering up into one large view the events which influenced Europe at large during the important first half of the present century, instead of following

them chronologically in the history of each distinct nation.

E. B. Andrews' "History of the last quarter century in the United States" is distinctly a better work, I should say, than his two-volume history of the United States, although this also rather partakes of the character of journalism than of permanent history.

Arber's "Story of the Pilgrim fathers" is a very interesting book, in the nature of a calendar of all the documentary material of the history of the Pilgrim fathers in England, the Netherlands, and in New England, presenting, quite fully, documents and other interesting matter; it is the most important book of recent times, I should say, connected with that early New England history.

Burgess' "Middle period, 1817–1858," in the "American history series," is a difficult book to read, because the style is bad; but the matter of the history is, generally speaking, very good. It is open, perhaps, to the criticism that there is a little leaning backward in the attempt to be impartial as between North and South, as between slavery and anti-slavery, almost to the prejudice of the anti-slavery view, sometimes; but it is an honest attempt to deal fairly with those great questions; and I believe, on the whole, it deals with them more fairly, more thoughtfully, more fully and instructively than any other work I know of.

Eggleston's "Beginners of a nation" is the first volume of a general history, or what promises to be a general history, of the United States, which will be of very considerable value if it is completed, although I do not think that it quite comes up to the proclamation made of it on its appearance. The chapter dealing with Roger Williams and the early history of Rhode Island seems to me to be the best treatment of that subject that I know of.

Under Biography come a number of works that seem to belong distinctly to History, not in the general way in which all biography belongs to history, but in the particular way in which I would assign very many so-called biographies to the historical class, because they present the lives of men which have really no personal interest, but which are mixed up with public events and are inseparable from them. I place many such works under the title of history in my own library classification, and I should not consider it rational to make a mere matter of title control the classification. For example, it is not rational to make a difference between the life of Queen Elizabeth and a history of England during the life of Queen Elizabeth; I think that the life of a sovereign or the life of a ruler should be placed with history, and I would place many others there.

Hogarth's "Philip and Alexander of Macedon" I regard as an excellent work, because it brings out with great distinctness the superior greatness of Philip over Alexander.

Mandell Creighton's "Queen Elizabeth" is a somewhat sumptuous and costly work, but one of very distinct value.

The two biographies in the "Foreign statesmen series," by J. F. Bright, "Joseph II." and "Maria Theresa," are both of them excellent.

Sloane's "Life of Napoleon," and Mahan's "Life of Lord Nelson," I should rank as almost the two most important historical books of the year, and they certainly belong to history rather than biography.

In Travel some of the books listed belong more distinctly to history; for example, Dickinson's "Greek view of life," Tsountas' "The Mycenæan age," and Roberts' "Forty-one years in India," which is one of the important historical works of the year on India.

CYRUS ADLER. — There is one book in the history of Asia and Africa which has not been mentioned and that I wish particularly to call attention to — "The fall of the Congo Arabs," by S. L. Hinde. It is one of the most interesting of recent books about Africa, and combines thorough scientific knowledge with great narrative interest.

Miss HELEN E. HAINES. — I am glad Dr. Adler has called attention to "The fall of the Congo Arabs," and in the same class — history of Asia and Africa — I should like to mention Captain Baden-Powell's "Downfall of Prempeh." It is the story of the English expedition of 1896 against the Ashantis, in which Prince Henry of Battenberg died, and it is very interesting because of the vividness of its pictures of savage Africa, and as a contribution to very recent history.

J. K. HOSMER. — There are three works I think it well to mention on this occasion. The great work of Mr. Thwaites, the translation of the "Jesuit relations," is going to be a work of the very first historical importance, recognized, I think, as such all over the civilized world.

The next is Professor Moses Coit Tyler's "Literary history of the American Revolution," a continuation of his great "History of American literature" and "History of the American Revolution." The facsimile edition of the Bradford history, published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., should also be recommended. It is an expensive work, costing $25, but it gives in satisfactory shape one of the most precious documents of American history. Generally speaking, it seems to me a little questionable to make facsimiles. I doubt the expediency of such a work as that undertaken by Mr. B. F. Stevens, who is producing in facsimile a vast amount of diplomatic correspondence by not very distinguished statesmen; but in the case of a work like the Bradford manuscript a facsimile is well worth while.

J. N. LARNED. — I fully intended to speak of the "Jesuit relations," edited by Mr. Thwaites, but overlooked it. It is one of the works I should certainly wish to bring forward among the important publications of the year. I think we would all agree that nothing more important has been undertaken in a historical way than the translation and publication of this great series of relations, which includes not only the original Jesuit relations, but many collateral documents bearing on the same early American history and early life among the Indians. It is a work of astonishing labor, and certainly a work that the A. L. A. can be very proud of as having been undertaken and carried through by one of its members.

Miss LINDA A. EASTMAN read a paper by Miss C. M. HEWINS on

### CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Before giving an opinion on individual books it is well to keep in mind that the children who take books from public libraries are of all grades of intelligence, a few from homes full of books where fathers and mothers read the best from English literature, and many from houses where there are no books and the father cannot read enough to vote. The first have a large vocabulary and are familiar with historical allusions and the names of poets and artists before they go to school. The second have a meagre choice of words, but pick up with surprising quickness crumbs of information about historical characters or the poets whose verses they read in class. Between these two extremes is a large number of boys and girls whose fathers and mothers read newspapers and poor novels. What books should a library buy to meet the wants of these three classes of children?

First, books should be written in good English which they all could understand. A recent reviewer defines a good style for children as that which Andrew Lang has adopted in his fairy-books, a little old-fashioned and abounding in such expressions as "Vastly well, madam!" The abridgments of his fairy-books are models for the children to whom English is an unfamiliar tongue, and who find Hawthorne's "Wonder-book" and "Tanglewood tales" full of long words and involved sentences. It is, however, a fatal mistake to simplify Hawthorne, as the writer of a little book called "In Mythland" has done, into such chopped sentences as —

"This made Pandora cross.
"She would not play.
"The dear boy felt sad.
"He went out to play alone.
"Pandora looked at the box.
"How pretty, is it not?
"Flowers and men were carved upon it, leaves, too, and children."

If a book is in an easy flowing style the child-reader becomes interested in it and goes on just as you and I read a French story, occasionally meeting an unfamiliar word, but guessing it by the context.

Second, children's books should be imaginative in the best sense, or give information "to be understanded of the people." Children like history in story-form, but once in a while there is a boy or girl who prefers it undiluted. One class in history that I know, of children from 12 to 15 years old, reads and enjoys Parkman's histories.

Third, books should appeal to the best instincts of children. There are two which always touch the chord that vibrates to tales of suffering bravely endured. These two are "Uncle Tom's cabin" and "Black Beauty." Stories of children who are cruelly treated should not, I think, be placed in children's libraries, and with the exception of these two books there should be little on the shelves to excite their tears.

Stories of happy, sunny childhood in sheltered homes, of simple country pleasures, or home life in cities where the father and mother rule the household gently but firmly and the

children do not decide important questions for themselves, are still to be found. So are wholesome tales of school life, stories of animals, lives of great men, books teaching handicrafts or resources for vacation and rainy days, and selections of poetry.

On reading several hundred letters from children about their favorite books, I find that none of them care for books about music or art, and few for out-of-door writers, books of games and sports, or poetry, unless they use it as supplementary reading in school. Most of them like fairy-tales, if they speak of them at all. One thinks "Gulliver's travels" silly, but another writes: "A year or two ago I found in reading fairy stories that what seemed to me to be rather silly corresponded to what was real facts and might have happened."

J. K. HOSMER. — The next topic is the Fiction of the year, by Miss Haines.

FICTION.

Miss HELEN E. HAINES. — In arranging for the discussion of Fiction this year, it is very doubtful if Miss Cutler has considered the fact that a person who reads a great many more novels for mere enjoyment than is wise, and who confesses a long-established affection for their kind, is at all the proper person to present the subject of fiction to librarians. A disapproving, or, at least, a deprecatory attitude would be more in keeping with library traditions. And yet much of the woe occasioned by a high percentage of fiction circulation, and much of the perennial lamentation as to the evils of novel-reading seem unnecessary when we think how great a force for good, good novels are, and how much that is best and noblest in literature has come to us through the medium of fiction.

It is, of course, in the one word *good* that the whole difficulty lies. Many books that from a literary point of view are unreservedly good, are morally questionable; many others quite devoid of literary quality have endeared themselves to a multitude of readers, whose lack of intellectual perception is not criminal, even though it be regrettable. If a library exclude too rigidly the former, it is not representative of literature; if the latter be absolutely banned, it is limiting its privileges to the intellectual few and discriminating against the uncultured many.

But, of course, in any selection of fiction there must be the question how far to go, and where to draw the line between what is and what is not admissible. The matter centres in the questions of quantity and quality. The former limitation needs no emphasis; it is ever present and ever insistent; the second crystallizes into the question of morals. A library must have some books suited for readers of mature intelligence but undesirable for young people. It must have others that are not desirable for general circulation at all. It is in deciding just how far to go that the difficulty lies.

Within the past year or so there has been a slackening in the tide of erotic fiction; but at the same time there have developed two distinct classes of novels, which cannot be ignored in the literature of the day but which are none the less harmful in their influence.

The first may be called, from the books that most thoroughly represent it, "keynote" fiction. These are the analyses of diseased souls, the studies of distorted lives, of which Fletcher's "God's failures" and Moore's "Celibates" are examples.

The second consists of the "slum stories" that have sprung into such astonishing vogue within the past year or so — the "Maggies," "Arties," and other children of the Jago, who reveal to us the vice, misery, and wretchedness that exist in all great cities, with the hard clearness of the camera, unsoftened by the tints of art.

But we say, "These things are true; diseased souls exist, and there are plague-spots in great cities." That is so; but we do not choose treatises on psychomania for family reading, nor do we send our sons and daughters to stale-beer dives or opium joints that they may learn what life is; and when a novelist devotes himself solely to the exploitation of what is morbid, vulgar, ugly and repulsive, it becomes the right and duty of those who are to have charge of those novels to exercise a censorship in their selection.

In this present list I do not think that there are any books that come definitely within either of these two classes; but there are several that have been suggested for discussion, and there are a few, not on the list, that it has been suggested to bring before this meeting.

This list includes 100 novels, excluding juvenile books, chosen from a total of about 1000 published during the year. Of this number, I

absolutely refuse to say how many I have read.

A VOICE. — Oh, do tell !

Miss HAINES. — The list represents, therefore, but about 10 per cent. of the novels of the year; but it certainly represents the best of them. We say — and truly enough — that there are no great books nowadays; but that within one twelvemonth we should have been given such novels as "Quo Vadis ?" "Weir of Hermiston" — though it is only a fragment — "Sir George Tressady," "Sentimental Tommy," "On the face of the waters," and "The choir invisible," should make us "remember our marcies."

In the fiction of the present year, two books stand head and shoulders over all others. There have been before this some good novels on the stupendous subject of the Indian mutiny — perhaps Sir George Chesney's "Dilemma" is the best — but no one has ever attempted to show the native side, the Indian point of view, as Mrs. Steel shows it in "On the face of the waters." To all intents and purposes she has here taken on the very nature of the native, and she shows him, Mohammedan or Hindoo, in his childishness, his faithfulness and greater guile, his race prejudice and religious fanaticism, as he is, not as the usual Anglo-Indian novel pictures him. The book is impartial — too impartial; and wholly true to historical fact. Mrs. Steel's sympathies with the natives, however, have influenced her to judge too harshly and a little unfairly the English course before and during the relief of Delhi, though her narrative historically is absolutely correct. This unfairness lies simply in implication, not in definite statement of fact. The dominant note of the whole book is "Kismet"; fate, not Mrs. Steel, holds the threads of the lives caught up in the fierce tangle of Delhi, and you feel that she could not, if she would, change the pattern that they weave. In one library it has been asked whether "On the face of the waters" was desirable for general circulation. I do not see how that question can be raised, or how the book can hurt any one. It is not written for children, but for men and women. It is about men and women in a time of fierce conflict and unnatural conditions ; but I do not see how it can hurt any one, or how its stern teaching can be misinterpreted.

Nothing could be more different from "On the face of the waters" than "The choir invisible." Coming to it prejudiced, perhaps, from its precursor, "Summer in Arcady," one is at first held spellbound by the sheer witchery of its descriptive beauty, its pictures of nature and of scenery; to that spell there is added the deeper charm of its spirituality; and it is because it combines so perfectly these two charms — the spell of nature and the spell of the spirit — that it is so wholly beautiful. In its picture of the Kentucky of a century ago, it recalls Irving's "Ralph Ringwood"; but it is a gentler picture, and one of the most pleasant things about it is that it shows not only the rough uncouthness of the pioneer days, but the gentlehood, the culture and the talent that were represented there, and that we are too apt to overlook or to ignore in our ideas of the pioneers of America.

Taking the books in their order in the list, we come to Bangs' "Mr. Bonaparte of Corsica." That is almost as painful as his "Bicyclers and other farces," and it shows how sad a thing it is when a writer sets out to be "as funny as he can." His "Rebellious heroine," who really was an attractive and whimsically amusing young person, is not here; but she was a much more agreeable acquaintance than Mr. Bonaparte.

James Barnes' "Princetonian" is a first-rate story of the polishing of a rough diamond who goes to Princeton from a small western farming town; it is more wholesome than some other recent stories of college life, and has a blunt straightforwardness that is attractive.

Both of Mrs. Barr's stories are excellent tales of North Sea fisherfolk. "Prisoners of conscience" is remarkable in its unrelieved pictures of souls bound and stifled in the rigid folds of sternest Calvinism.

"Sentimental Tommy" needs no comment ; in its varying play of humor and pathos, its absolutely "human" element, it has found a place in the hearts of most of us.

Bourdillon's "Nephelé" I thought one of the most charming books of last year. It has not had very much recognition. Its author wrote the song "The night has a thousand eyes, the day but one," and the book is really more a prose poem than a novel. It is a story of spiritual affinities, recalling Du Maurier's "Peter Ibbetson" and Kipling's "Brush-wood boy." It is

permeated by an intense love of music, and has a grace of expression and delicacy of sentiment that are wholly delightful.

Alice Brown's "The day of his youth" might be called a tragic pastoral. It is told in the form of letters, which is always a dangerous experiment. It is pleasantly written, but fails in attempting too much.

Bunner is always delightful, and the stories gathered under the title "Love in old cloathes" show him at his best.

Mrs. Burnham's "Miss Archer Archer" is something like ice-cream soda. I am not ashamed to say I liked it. It is not in the least "strong," neither is it a "study." There are two young men and two young women; every one misunderstands the sentiments of every one else, and they are all comfortably miserable — but not too miserable — together; then all things are smoothed out in a most delightful fashion, and, as Kipling says of the beloved "three-decker," "every one is married, and we go ashore at last."

"Miss Archer Archer" is sentimental in a vivacious and attractive manner; but the sentimentality of Crockett's "Lad's love" is simply overwhelming. It has been said that one of the most extraordinary things about the productions of Mr. Crockett and his school is the overwhelming emotion that is awakened in strong men and women at the sight of an ordinary every-day infant. "Lad's love" simply brims over with that sort of sentimentality — that, and dialect. Either, separately, I could have tackled; together, they were too much.

"An elephant's track," by Mrs. M. E. M. Davis, is a collection of striking southern stories, most of them in darky dialect, and all of them showing originality, force and much poetic feeling.

Mrs. Deland's "Wisdom of fools" consists of four short stories, each one presenting some problem of ethics or conscience in a way that, while offering no solution, makes one think, and haunts one with its perplexing insistence. They are natural, gracefully written, and each one touches the riddle, "When is right wrong and wrong right?"

Doyle's "Rodney Stone" is not so good as its predecessors, but gives a fair picture of English life in the first days of the century, introduces a number of historic persons, and is interesting, though there is a little too much glorification of the noble art of prize-fighting.

Miss Dougall's "Madonna of a day" is a study in the influence of a false ideal. It is original, not to say astonishing, in its conception and development, and its climax is simply haunting.

"The cat and the cherub," by Chester Bailey Fernald, is probably the best collection of short stories published last year. In originality, *verve*, wit and force, they are remarkable.

Grant's "Stories of Naples and the Camorra" is one of the best books of the year. These tales of Naples fisherfolk, and of the strange secret society called the Camorra that permeates all lower-class Naples life, have a fidelity, a kindliness of tone, and a minutiæ of detail that make them more like actual experiences than stories. They are the result of the author's long residence in Italy; and I doubt if there is any other book in English that so well depicts Neapolitan fisherfolk life.

Both of Anthony Hope's books have the claim of popularity, and no other. "Phroso" is the best; but both are miles below the "Prisoner of Zenda." The "Princess Osra" stories are so artificial, padded and superficial, that it is hard to see in them any lasting qualities.

Howells and James we have always with us; and as antidotes to a too cheerful view of life, or as discouragers of a belief in "the human spark divine," any one of the four books listed should prove thoroughly effective.

Keightley's "Last recruit of Clare's" and O'Grady's "In the wake of King James" do not seem to me to belong in this list. Both are inferior historical novels. The former is after — a long way after — Doyle's "Brigadier Gerard," but the writer has not learned that it takes more than a lay figure equipped with spurs, a cloak and a plumed hat, and supplied with a fine quota of phrases, such as "I'faith," "By're Lady," and an ever-ready sword, to make a good historical story. The other is gloriously "bluggy," with wicked earls, imprisoned maidens, over-matched but ever-conquering heroes, and frowning castle-keeps galore; but it is a shilling shocker rather than an historical novel.

Roberts' "Forge in the forest" is a novel of Acadia during the French and English struggles in Canada. It has many beautiful de-

scriptions of nature, but these are its chief charm, and it is inferior to his volume of short stories called "Earth's enigmas."

Of the two books by Miss Yonge, "The cook and the captive" was published two or three years ago. It is a story of Gaul in the time of Attila. "The pilgrimage of the Ben Beriah" is the story of the wanderings of the Children of Israel made into an historical tale — rather a remarkable subject to weave into a story, but it has been done very well.

There are three or four books not on the list that I should like to present, and see if it is thought that they belong there. One is Robert Barr's "The mutable many," published about two months ago. It is a story of capital and labor, and gives both sides of a long strike with common-sense fairness. The central idea seems to be that, no matter what the right of the cause of labor, and though the cause of capital may have injustice on its side, labor will generally lose in the struggle on account of qualities inherent in itself. The "mutable many" — the mob — lose on account of their very mutability; because they have not the coherence or organization to carry through their work and gain their ends. The story is crude and has the trail of the journalist — all of Barr's books have; but it is forcible, gives both sides, and I thought it good.

The next is "The descendant." That was suggested for the list, but was not included. It was published anonymously by Harper about two months ago, and has just been discovered to be by a young southern woman, Miss Ellen Glasgow. It is very strong, unpleasant in parts, but deeply interesting and possessing a wonderful force in its teaching. It is the story of a man whose bitter outcast childhood has made him determine, with all the strength of his intense nature, that he will carve a way in the world and make himself envied, not despised. And he does it. He tramples over all obstacles, disregards most laws, human or divine, and then at the end he finds that his strength is, after all, but weakness, and that he has made himself pitied, not envied. The whole teaching is that strength rooted in self is weakness, and that weakness animated by love is strength. It is strong teaching, often disagreeable, as I said, but very forcible.

H. G. Wells has published four or five books during the year. One of them is a bicycle romance, and I think even an A. L. A. list to be up to date should include a bicycle novel. It is called "The wheels of chance"; I have not read it, but would like to hear from some one who has.

G. M. Jones. — I have; it is delightful. I dislike most of Wells' stories very much, but that I think is capital.

Miss Haines. — It seems to me it might be well to put it in if we want to make the list representative of present-day subjects.

Another book that was questioned is Olive Schreiner's "Trooper Peter Halket, of Mashonaland." I think it should go on the list, as certainly belonging in a library. It is a bitter arraignment and denunciation of British cruelties in South Africa, and is really a politico-religious tract rather than a novel. The incidents described are harrowing and horrible in the extreme, but it is written with all the intensity and much of the mystical beauty so characteristic of Olive Schreiner. Personally I found it most interesting, and do not see how it can hurt any one.

It might, however, be questioned whether Brander Matthews' "Tales of fantasy and fact" are worth inclusion. They do not amount to anything. One recalls, when reading them, what the New York *Sun* said of Brander Matthews' literary essays — that he "walked in the grove of literature and gently gathered chestnuts from among the rustling leaves."

Adjourned at 5.05.

## *FOURTH SESSION.*

(Horticultural Hall, Tuesday Evening, June 23, 8.30 p.m.)

### THE PUBLIC MEETING.

The meeting was called to order by President Brett, at 8.45, in the following words:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members and Friends of the American Library Association: This is an unusual meeting of the Association; unusual in that we have so large an attendance, evincing an interest in this movement far wider than the membership of the Association. We are met, also, not to consider, as we usually do at our meetings, the perfecting of methods of library work, nor even to consider an extension of the work, but to consider new fields of labor; how we can make the library more useful; how we can reach through it more

people. We are met to-night to consider the place of the library in the community; to inquire as to the value of the work which the library is doing; to see whether as librarians we can justify our work; to see whether as citizens the library is an institution which it pays to support; to consider whether the work of the library tends to uplift and to better individual lives; whether it helps to make the task of earning a living easier; whether it tends to help to business success, to professional success; whether it helps to make better citizens; whether as a whole it is tending to better our municipality, to make a better state, a better nation. And surely in no place in this country can that question be more readily answered than here, in this city which has furnished so many distinguished names to our American literature, which is identified with progress, which is the home of the first and oldest library, and which also boasts of the youngest and greatest of American public libraries — a public library which is doing more work, which is placing more books in the hands of the people, than any other library, perhaps, on the face of the globe. In this city there is certainly an object lesson in that library which would enable the questions we ask to be answered.

The progress of the last 25 years has not only trebled the volume of books available in libraries of this kind, but it has, through increased efficiency in the work, many times more than trebled the use of the library. Nevertheless, in spite of this great increase, we see that we are only at the beginning of library possibilities; that, compared with those educational institutions, the schools — with which we may fairly compare the library — while there are facilities for acquiring at least a common-school education for almost every child in the country, library facilities are still, in spite of this great increase, limited to a minority of the citizens of our country.

If we can answer favorably the question as to the value of the library, if we can see that the library is an institution that pays, the important and further question with us is: What is it our duty to do, as citizens, to promote the library movement and to increase the extent and efficiency of our library? We shall consider this question to-night. We shall ask not only the testimony of librarians, but we shall consider it from the standpoints of the scholar, of the educator, of the professional man. But whether as librarian, or scholar, or professional man, we shall consider it first and foremost from the standpoint of the citizen.

I have the pleasure of presenting to you as the first speaker of the evening a gentleman who, though still young, has been a pioneer of the library movement; one who took a small library in a western city where library work was little known and little appreciated, and in so doing abandoned a professional career in another direction that promised much greater things, and who, taking that small library, has developed it, and made it one of our largest and most efficient public libraries, one which so far as organization and method, and so far as the spirit of its work, is a model and an inspiration. I have the pleasure of introducing the librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, Mr. Crunden.

F. M. Crunden read his address

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

(*See p.* 5.)

Pres. Brett. — There are other more definite aspects of library work, and we will now have the pleasure of listening to a gentleman whose connection with organized academic instruction, and whose broader work in the field of library extension has fitted him to express an opinion as to the educational value of the library which carries much weight, and who can speak to us as a book-lover, author, and critic. I have the pleasure of introducing Professor Smyth.

ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR ALBERT H. SMYTH.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: Matthew Arnold, a skilful phrase-maker as well as a keenly analytic critic, won some of his most signal victories by the dexterous repetition of certain phrases, believing, probably, with Chalmers, who, when he was charged with repeating himself cried out: "Iteration! Why, all I am in the world I am by iteration." And there was one thought in particular that Matthew Arnold was fond of repeating, for he was profoundly convinced of the truth that lay in it. It was couched in these words: "Culture is indispensably necessary, and culture is reading — reading with a purpose to guide and assist us. Whoever does anything to help this does a good work, in fact it is the one essential service now to be rendered to the world." And that essential service, ladies and gentlemen of the Ameri-

can Library Association, you are now rendering to the world. It is your task to form and to direct the reading habit; to kindle that inextinguishable love for literature which Gibbon, in words that are burned into the memory, said he would not exchange for the wealth of the Indies.

True it is, the librarian in unselfishly performing his duties effaces himself. He lives only in the published works and the gratitude of those whom he helps. The superb culture and astonishing erudition of Henry Bradshaw gave stimulus and suggestion to scholars, but left no original monument to his own unique worth. Only in the preface of great and permanent contributions to literature, where men of learned minds have confessed their obligations and professed their deep gratitude to Henry Bradshaw, does the world gain some brief insight, some little glimpse of the immense service that was rendered by the librarian of Cambridge University.

It is my conviction that the theologians have all looked for Paradise in the wrong direction; it is to be found in Bloomsbury, London. It is in that reading-room where Richard Garnett, the Keeper of the Printed Books, patiently and with self-sacrifice devotes himself to aiding scholars in their researches.

Not only is the librarian's influence indirectly felt through the minds and works of scholars aided by him, but his influence is directly great upon the social culture of the community that feeds upon his library. The librarian registers the intellectual and spiritual culture of the people. He not only directs taste, but it is the librarian's task, as is so eloquently pointed out by Mr. Foster in his recent pamphlet, to create that taste — and what a taste it is!

To distribute the riches and open the regions of literature to a starving community is the superb and splendid task of the librarian. New England led, it is true, in the struggle for free libraries, but Sir Stafford Northcote took up the work which resulted in the free libraries of England. In the city, which was the headquarters of liberalism, George Dawson and Samuel Timmins created that free public library over which Mr. Mullins presides with such skill and energy. When that public library was opened and the people of Birmingham, before unacquainted with libraries, came to know what a potent force in the community a free library is, such a crisis was reached that to-day no man can hold public office in the city of Birmingham unless he pledges himself to support free libraries. And so, from that far-off corner of England, which is almost a country by itself, from Cornwall — unpenetrated for a long time by railways, and then only circuitously by the Great Western Railroad — the G. W. R. — and the London & South Western Railway — the L. & S. W. R. — popularly known as the "great way round," and the "long and slow way round," — there went forth to the great metropolis one who was destined to win fortune, to return to Cornwall with his hands open, and with the wealth he had acquired in London, to found throughout the length and breadth of Cornwall free libraries for his fellow-countrymen, so that now troops of pensive students find their way into buildings that have been beautifully constructed throughout all Cornwall, there to find knowledge that flows forth in streams of beneficence through Great Britain.

There is still another side to the matter: A distinguished Philadelphian, Mr. Horace Binney, said that one of the chief things he gained at college was his love for study. And indeed it is not the knowledge that is obtained from books, but it is the love for study that is the better thing. Books fall into the night and are left in its shade, but there is one thing that does not pass away, and that is the spirit of love for learning. At the time when Horace Binney was a student, and at a time within the distinct recollection of some of us, there was room in the curriculum for reading; for desultory reading; for that browsing in the library that has been so beneficial in all literary lives. But it would seem now that in the schools and colleges the spare moments are given to athletic sports; or the strain of the college work is so great that there is no time for desultory reading, to say nothing of heroic reading. It would seem that we are becoming less and less a reading people. We read books about books, or we read magazine articles on books about books, or we are content with the summaries in newspapers of magazine articles on books about books. All this seems to be carrying us further from reality into a mere commerce of ideas upon which no healthy soul can live. I am perpetually amazed when I question a class of boys of 16 or 17 years of age, coming up from the public schools of our great city, to

find that no inconsiderable number of the class have never read a book. I am amazed that there should exist boys of 16 or 17 years of age in this city, surrounded by all the splendid apparatus for education that Philadelphia possesses, who have never read a book — I do not mean the reading-matter that masquerades in book-clothing, but books that are books, in the sense of literature — who do not know that in Philadelphia there is such a thing in existence as a public library, who do not know where to get books. One of the most important problems that free libraries have to face is how to reach the students of the schools. Already the Free Library of Philadelphia has approached that problem, as it has been approached before in New England. It is how to hold forth a helping hand to those who are attempting the arduous task of drawing the youthful soul into the "substantial world" of books.

A whole world of subjects is opened to the teachers of the schools if they are only in co-operation with the librarians of the free libraries. The richest of public collections may be put at their disposal.

This is, therefore, a threefold service: a service to the scholar, to the public, and to the schools. And it is my profound conviction that this library association is but entering now upon a career of boundless influence, and that it has yet to introduce many a rising generation into the unspeakable delights of literature and to the manifold enjoyments of this bright world.

Pres. Brett. — We are fortunate in having with us this evening a gentleman who has devoted a large part of his public life to the efficient support of public libraries; who, as a business man, is in the very centre of the business life and financial activity of this great city; and, as a member of the committee which has charge of the expenditures of public money, has found it his duty to make a careful study of such expenditure and to determine the value received for each dollar expended. I have the pleasure of presenting to you the chairman of the Finance Committee of the Common Councils of Philadelphia — Mr. Seeds.

### ADDRESS OF MR. JACOB J. SEEDS.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I have but a word to say, and that is upon the local aspect of our Philadelphia Free Library and its relations to the Councils of the city. I can say that in my capacity as chairman of the Finance Committee in disbursing some millions of dollars for the various bureaus of Philadelphia, that this bureau in particular — the board of managers of the Free Library of Philadelphia — is held up as a model for other departments in the city. In this department, much as we hear of the extravagance of the city of Philadelphia, no such charge of extravagance has been brought. Economy reigns there, and the work that has been performed by this board is beyond question.

I might say that the Councils of the city of Philadelphia are thoroughly in accord with this work, and are committed to carry it on to a successful issue. And I feel that it is my duty on behalf of the Councils and of the people of the city of which I am a representative, to thank the representatives of the library board and the rank and file of the staff of the Philadelphia Free Library for the grand work that has been performed in the city since the inception of this institution.

There is one question in relation to the library that we ought to settle. We thought that we had it settled, but the Supreme Court of the state has taken issue with us upon that matter, and has decided that we have not the right to go on and build our free library, the central building which we were all sure we would soon be able to put up. I have but a word to say to this audience: I want to enlist the active work and sympathy of every man and woman here in the question that is about to be settled. This autumn the question is to be submitted to the people whether we shall have a magnificent and centrally located library in the city of Philadelphia, in which not only to carry out the work that has been begun but to extend that work. That question will be submitted to the people this fall, and, strange as it may seem, there is considerable opposition to this project in the city. It is because of this opposition that it becomes the duty of every person who is conversant with this work, who is a believer and a sincere sympathizer in it, to constitute himself an active supporter of it in canvassing this question before the people. Now, how can this be done? It is not the rich who derive the benefits of the library. It is those in moderate circumstances and the poorer people who appreciate this great work. And I feel, on the part of Councils,

where this opposition exists, that the work is not thoroughly understood, and if those who oppose it would go down among the masses and find out how they appreciate the libraries, the opposition would soon be wiped out. The words of the preceding speaker touched me, and I feel that if the boys and girls of the public schools in Philadelphia had the question of settling whether we shall have such a library, that the question would be settled beyond peradventure; but I regret to say the boys and girls have not the settling of the question. Now, how can you assist in this work? Think of the reflection upon the city of Philadelphia and its people, a people who can put $20,000,000 in the city hall for housing our municipal departments, if they should deny the sum of $1,000,000 to erect a centrally located library. All that will be necessary, I feel, is to spread the good news of what the library is doing and can do; to spread it so that the men who have the power to vote shall be fully alive to the city's necessity, and then Philadelphia will have her central library, to which she is entitled, and which her people will appreciate — no grand institution, no magnificent monument, no luxurious building that shall be noted principally for its architectural effects and beauty; but a substantial warehouse, I will call it, where the books can be stored, and which may be used as a centrally located building where the people can come and have the benefit of the library to which our city is entitled.

Pres. Brett. — We shall now have the pleasure of listening to a gentleman who has been a member of the American Library Association from its foundation, whose work in bibliography has been of use to libraries on both sides of the Atlantic, and who in these last few years has been making a study of library architecture for the benefit of his own library directly, which will, I am sure, produce a library that, when completed, will be just such a practical and convenient building as that desired by the gentleman who has just spoken. I have the pleasure of introducing to you as the next speaker the librarian of the Providence Public Library, Mr. Foster.

### ADDRESS OF MR. W: E. FOSTER.

Ladies and Gentlemen: After the stirring words of the speakers who have preceded me, you can perhaps have little doubt left in your minds as to the educational quality which belongs to the work of public libraries. But there is something more. I wish to maintain this proposition: that you can advance a stage further and ascribe to the work of public libraries a positively civilizing influence.

Your president has asked me to speak this evening on a subject which he knows has very much engaged my attention and my interest for a considerable time past; and he probably has done this from the supposition that the suggestion which would so effectually kindle the enthusiasm of one member of the Association would probably communicate itself to a wider circle, and I believe that he is more than half right. It is, in brief, this: — the very great service which the public library renders to its community by counselling and protesting against "the ephemeral."

How great a hold the ephemeral has in our modern life — the ephemeral in literature, the ephemeral in thought — no one needs to be informed. We see it in the appetite which our public has for the new books, *as new books*, notwithstanding we have been so wisely reminded, in a well-known counsel of Mr. Emerson, how greatly we gain by feeding on those books which are at least a year old. We see it in the appetite for periodicals; and, as one of the previous speakers has said, "in newspaper summaries of the magazine articles on books about books"; and we hear comments on the indisposition shown by many readers for any connected or sustained thought.

Public libraries can perform a great service in reducing the inequality between the literature of knowledge and the literature of power, so far as regards the attention which they receive, for this is a disproportion which can undoubtedly be corrected. There are four suggestions upon which I shall touch, which have been found effectual in this direction.

The first of these is, that we can make a great deal more in future than we have made in the past, of the opportunity for personal contact between the library reader and the library officer. The "information-desk" in my own library (as it is called) was established half a dozen years ago almost exclusively from the point of view, as indicated by its name, of supplying information, and of helping the reader find what he wants in the literature of knowledge; but in the past few years it has

been used almost as much in awakening the reader's mind to that which the library contains in the literature of power.

Secondly, it is to develop, even more than is now developed, in the immense work which can be done with the pupils of the schools, a desire for good literature. In our own community these efforts have been going on for a long series of years, so that now we have the pleasure of having in our community many who have a passion for good literature, which has been acquired in the schools.

The third suggestion is the use of reference lists and bulletins.

Of the fourth measure I will speak very briefly. We are looking forward to this with the greatest interest in our new building, but we have not as yet been able to put it into operation under any favorable conditions in our present quarters. It may be briefly described as an attempt to create an "atmosphere" of literature. Every artist knows how vital is this matter of atmosphere, in the growth of an artistic spirit and in the education of his eye. We wish to establish a series of rooms expressly equipped for this purpose, and expressly planned for this purpose — with a collection of books wholly within the field of the literature of power, to which we can point the reader and say: "Here are the best books by the best authors, in the best editions, representing in every way the idea of the best in literature." The books would be under the eyes and in the hands of an intelligent and sympathetic and tactful library officer. No one of these copies can be taken from the building, since that would defeat the essential purpose of the collection, but in each volume will be placed a printed slip, reading as follows: "In order to take a copy of this book for home use, apply for number so and so, from the stack."

We look for an improvement in the quality of the books that go from the building and into the homes of the readers; and this will manifest itself not only in an improvement of the intellectual condition but in the building up of libraries in their own homes and upon their own shelves. What basis have we for such an expectation? Our past experience. It is no uncommon thing for readers to return even books of the highest literature and to say: "This is a book I must have," and they are then furnished with data which enable them to purchase that book.

A library is like a great organ, and its great number of books may be compared to the organ's almost countless number of stops and keys. Bearing in mind this tendency which there is always, to an undue emphasis on that which is of lesser value, and the great danger of allowing it to exist, the librarian should see to it, that in touching this or that stop or key, he does not neglect those which will uplift, and inspire, and develop the minds of the community making use of his library.

Pres. Brett. — Thirteen years ago I was called to take charge of a public library — a work about which I knew nothing and for which I was not ready. After a little preliminary experimenting which was not very successful, I went about the country to see what I could learn in regard to this work. I came to the library of one of our great universities, looked around for an hour or two, and then asked if I could see the librarian. I was taken into his inner office, expecting to stay there a few moments; but for two hours I was kept there, and in those two hours I received such an inspiration towards library work, such a glimpse of its possibilities, that if there is any good in the work that I have been able to do since then, I date it all from that afternoon when I visited that library. And what that librarian has done for me he has done for scores of other librarians in the country. We will now have the pleasure of listening to the man I listened to that February afternoon. I need hardly introduce Mr. Dewey.

### ADDRESS OF MR. MELVIL DEWEY.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I cannot help looking back 21 years to the time when we came to Philadelphia to organize the American Library Association. Since then, year by year, and by little groups of years, we have taken up one work after another, but none of them have been finished. Yet we have had distinct periods when the library associations and library journals and state and local associations dotted the country all over. We have had meetings of state associations and city associations where the attendance was larger than at our national meetings. There was in the very beginning, in 1876, a movement for library extension. It was a society of propaganda; we all went out with the idea of spreading the library movement. The old idea of the library as a reservoir was giving

way to that of the fountain; we were to have a fountain where each one might go. And then it was a question of piping the water from the fountain to almost every house and every room in a city. And step by step we had the differerent kinds of libraries: the reference library, and the branches, and the travelling library carrying books to all who wished to use them. Then there was a development from the very first library methods — the development of the science of library economy. And some said we were threshing over old straw and learning the lessons that older men had already learned. But that was not true, for we were laying the foundations for the new science.

If we study the proceedings of the American Library Association in those early years it will be seen that we were laying foundations. That work has been largely done. We shall improve upon it from time to time, but when the history of the Association is written it will read that from 1876 for nearly 10 years was the time when most was done for the development of library methods and toward making it possible to do a larger amount of good work with the time and money at disposal. Then came the work with the library in the schools. And we only understand the a, b, c, of that at the present time. For 20 years different branches of that work have been going on, but it was not until the organization last year of the Library Department of the National Educational Association that the library was recognized as an essential part of education. I say essential, for the library is now looked upon as a useful adjunct of the school. We have been compelled to do like a man who puts a building on an insufficent foundation and when it begins to settle down repairs it and makes it a little stronger; and still it sinks, and he repairs it again and again until it gets down to bed rock. That is what we are doing in this 19th century; we are finding bed rock on which our educational fabric will stand.

Mr. Seeds said that if only the boys and girls of Philadelphia had the settling of this question of whether Philadelphia should have a central library, that the question would be settled beyond peradventure, but he said the boys and girls have not the settling of the question. I contend the boys and girls of Philadelphia are going to settle this question in a very few years. The boys in a very few years are going to be the voters who will decide this question. A prominent politician in one of our great cities said to me he had the power and the votes to overturn the work that was done in our free libraries. I said: "You have the votes perhaps, and if you dared you might do this thing, but let me tell you, you will be surprised how many men in the city of New York favor free libraries and, if need be, will carry a gun before they will give up this part of their educational system." And I say to you here that the boys and girls of Philadelphia will settle this question, and their fathers and mothers will settle it in the same way when they come to realize the benefit of the free library system.

Following the period of specific co-operation in library work, came the relation of the library to the state and nation. That was the hitching of the wagon to the star. It is no more possible to build up a satisfactory system of libraries for supplying reading-matter to the people without aid, both state and national, than it would be to carry on our schools in that way.

Then most important of all comes this period upon which we are just entering, which I like to call the filtration period. We had the reservoir and we changed it to the fountain. We not only went on from that and piped the books to every house and every room, but that was not enough and we must go farther. I remember a few years ago there was an appropriation of five or six hundred thousand dollars made in the city of Albany to get a greater water supply for the city, and the money was spent in bringing the water of the Hudson and distributing it by pipes throughout the city, and it was piped into every room. But we discovered the faster the water was piped to the city the faster our citizens went to the cemetery, so we appropriated another million of dollars to take up the subject of filtration. No city expects to send poisoned water to its citizens; neither does a library desire to furnish bad reading, but the public library is at fault, in my judgment, in not doing more for quality in all it is doing for quantity. It is a necessary work to get books to the people, but we should constantly endeavor to improve the quality of the books, for the library must be the library militant before it can become the library triumphant.

The "yellow journalism" of to-day is the most serious problem that confronts us. We would do well in dealing with it if we followed out the plan of the little girl who complained

that her brother had set a trap to catch the pretty birds. She said she had prayed real hard that the birds would not get caught in the trap. She was asked what else she did. She said: "I went out and kicked that trap all to pieçes." Possibly there is a lesson for us here, because some of our libraries have been content with a great circulation of books to record, but they have thoroughly seized upon the idea of having the books used without having before them this problem that comes under the head of filtration, and this is a work that can be done only through the public library system and not through book-stores. The idea in my mind is that by and by the library is to take almost entirely the place of the book-store; it will be a place where the reader will be shown a book and be interested in it and will buy it.

Philadelphia was the place where we met first in organizing the American Library Aassociation. Philadelphia has the honor of leading in many high educational works. Her great university is a surprise to those who come to it for the first time after a number of years. In university extension work she sets the example to all the country, and in all this work there has been one man in Philadelphia so prominent that when we hear of new educational and new philanthropic work we know almost in advance who the man will be who leads in its organization. That man is here to-night and intends not to speak. I am sure, even late as it is, if I relieve you of the many things I would like to say, we will enjoy hearing him and that we will insist on having a few words from him. Personally I have been inspired and delighted with the magnificent work done by Dr. Pepper, and I am sure the members of the Association share with me my feeling in insisting that we have a word or two from him now. I am inclined, Dr. Pepper, to paraphrase the words of Eugene Field and say:

Bless you, Dr. Pepper, may you live a thousand years,
To sort of keep things lively in this vale of human tears,
And may I live a thousand too — a thousand less a day,
For I should not like to be on earth and hear you'd passed away.

ADDRESS OF DR. WILLIAM PEPPER.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I only have this to say: that the great success of the Free Library of Philadelphia has been due chiefly to one thing, and that is an influence that has pervaded it from the beginning, that has carried it from the centre to the very periphery of this great town, in every direction — the feeling that this library is yours; that there is nothing about it — money, buildings, the time and the services of the officers, the books on the shelves — that is not yours. It is a part of the city government. It is yours to use as is the water supply and any other thing that the municipality supplies to its inhabitants. And it has been successful because we have turned it over to the people, and the people have taken hold of it to use it in a way that exceeds the extent to which a free library is used in any other city of the world. This has come in three years, and not from any special method; only from freedom; only from trusting you; only by returning to you that which you gave us to use for you.

We have a central station, a building that is liable to burn down while we are talking to-night. It is a disgrace to this city, that that central station and every branch that we have opened is crowded from the moment the doors are opened until the crowds are driven out at the last minute at night, crowded by our fellow-citizens who throng to these branches as I have never seen human beings throng after any single article desired. Do you suppose that this city is going to allow an institution that is an integral part of its life to languish or pause in its growth? It has been a surprise to us all. I am glad to hear Mr. Seeds bear testimony to the efficiency of the service. That is John Thomson's work. It spreads through the whole of that system and comes from the single-minded, whole-hearted devotedness of that man to you.

It is a pleasure to have this Association meet in Philadelphia. It is an honor to the place where it was founded. I am glad you have come back to us on this 21st anniversary of the Association, and it is good for us all to have been here to-night. Let us, however, take to heart the words that have been said and go out from here pledged to carry on the work, not only in our own homes but into all circles which we can control or influence, until the free library here is placed upon the most permanent basis that can be desired. New York has just transferred to its consolidated library a building site which our friend Dr. Billings states is worth many millions of dollars, and that city has appropriated two and a half millions of dol-

lars towards the use of that library. I know that the library movement of Philadelphia is going on to its completion. It has not begun to be what it is going to be: we are going to carry this library into every ward in this city; we are going to have every section of this city supplied with the best reading in the most attractive way and made convenient to the people, so that the education of this city, we hope, shall be better organized and shall be more thorough than that of any community in the world. We Philadelphians say to you, visiting members of the American Library Association, we are very proud of our city. We love it. We believe there is no community where good work can be better promoted than it can be in this city, and we count this work of establishing a free library for the entire people, and spreading it until it reaches the home of every member of this community, among the best works that we have undertaken. It is necessary for the stability of society and it is necessary for the happiness of our people, and I hope that every man and woman who is here to-night and has heard the inspiring words that have been spoken from this platform by men from widely different places, will go away determined to labor for this cause until it is fully successful.

Pres. BRETT closed the meeting with a few words of acknowledgment at 10.30, and immediately upon adjournment, a reception, with music, was held in the hall. Dancing followed until a late hour.

## *FIFTH SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 23.)

The fifth session was held simultaneously with the separate session of the College Section, which met in one of the class-rooms of the Institute. It was devoted to a consideration of ELEMENTARY LIBRARY WORK.

The meeting was called to order at 9.30, in the library of Drexel Institute, by Dr. G. E. WIRE, chairman.

### CLASSIFICATION AND CATALOGING.

Dr. G. E. WIRE.—The idea of the present session, as we intend to carry it out, is that we are to have short papers or talks, preferably about 10 minutes each, and after each speaker is done you are at liberty to assault him with all the questions you wish to ask. To that end we have arranged this rather *negligée* appearance, so that you may feel quite at ease and at home, as though in your own library.

The part that falls to me is to talk on classification and on cataloging, and in doing so I will start with the general ideas of classification. Of course we know that when we speak of classification, we generally mean the D. C.; but there were classifications before the D. C., and we hope there will be after it. The main idea of a classification, as I understand it, is to have an orderly arrangement of ideas and of knowledge. The trouble is that most classifications have been rather arbitrarily made. They are classifications of ideas and of knowledge rather than of books, and it is sometimes impossible to make the classification of ideas and knowledge coincide with the classification of books. You see that fact most prominently in college libraries where there are professors with omnivorous tastes, who want the books that are in any way related to their department in that department.

But the main idea of a classification should be to keep books on a subject together, and to keep them together in a classification which will allow of extension, and, if necessary, of removing the books.

There is no fixed law and gospel about classification. If a book will be used more in one class than another, and is somewhat related to that first class, or if it is bought for a particular purpose or by a particular fund, put it in that place, and don't feel that you are bound by the laws of the Medes and Persians, or any other laws, to put it where you don't want it.

Another idea about classification has special reference to the Decimal classification. You will be often puzzled by some books. They seem to cover certain subjects, and yet some of them don't seem to cover much of anything; in that case it is a good rule to put the books *somewhere* and let them go. I always work on the plan that a book that does not tell much about anything is not good for much of anything.

The classification of books should be done as rapidly as is consistent with a measurable amount of accuracy. Accuracy is a relative term. What would be a superlative of accuracy in a small circulating library would not approach anything like accuracy in a professional library, or where a library is divided up

into very close classes. You must judge the amount of accuracy and the fineness of your classification by your circumstances, and my rule for beginners in library work always is to be independent, and to do in their library as they think should be done; not to be governed always or in any way by what another library does. Last year this question came up in the classification of Field's "Love-affairs of a bibliomaniac." Some people bought the book and put it into bibliography. It is a pleasant little book, and has as much bibliography in it as anything else. Others put it in literature, and then both seemed to be in doubt as to whether they had done the right thing. I told them to put it where they wanted it, where people looked for it, and where they would be most liable to find it in the shelves.

Another thing about fineness of classification. As I said before, I am not in favor of fine points in classification in small libraries or those just started. Use a rough classification and get your books massed together. That is especially desirable in these days of open shelves. Now that the public can get to the books, I think we have passed, as a general thing, in our public libraries, the days when we need very minute classification and cataloging.

As to the question how classification should not be done, it should not be done by a library according to its own particular fad or to suit its own purposes. Sometimes classifications are badly strained to suit the librarian, because he likes to get all books that relate to the same thing together. I don't think we have very many of those librarians in this country, but they do exist. They fill the whole library full of spiritualism, for instance, and they put everything that has any spirits in that class.

W: R. EASTMAN. — What would you say of a library that did not have a classification at all?

Dr. WIRE. — In that case I don't know what you would do with the librarian. The best thing would be to let him go on until he saw the error of his ways. Sooner or later the librarian will see the necessity of some sort of a classification. The worst evils of classification are where the librarian is hide-bound to an old system, and can't see the necessity of turning it into a living system.

W: R. EASTMAN. — But say they had 500 books, and asked what would be the advantage to them of putting those books in five or 10 classes, what would be the argument to use?

Dr. WIRE — If they had only two books by one author, they would be able to find those two books better classified than if they were in accession order. Of course, the difficulty is to find the books on the shelves as they stand; it is easy enough to find them in a catalog or a classification. I know one librarian who used to say: "Well, it doesn't make much difference how books stand on the shelves. They are together in the catalog." The result is that in libraries classified on that plan it sometimes takes five minutes for the attendants to get a dozen books that are in the same classification, because they are scattered in different parts of the library.

W: R. EASTMAN. — Suppose the librarian says: "I know every book in the library, and I can put my hand on it in the dark."

Dr. WIRE. — In a small library like that you can't do very much with the librarian until the library grows. In a library of 500 or 2000 volumes the librarian finds the books in that way, and if they are standing on the shelves in accession order, let them stay there. It does seem to be a good deal of red tape to have four or five hundred books scattered around in different classes, with perhaps one book in a class; but of course we are used to it, and it is our method of working.

Miss L. E. STEARNS. — Would you start a small library on the D. C. plan?

Dr. WIRE. — I think I should, with the three-figure system. It is preferable to leaving them to their own vagaries, because you don't know where they will bring up, and we have the force of example where this system is used in a great many cities. I should advise the use of the D. C. by small libraries in starting.

Miss M. Z. CRUICE. — Have there been many objections to the Decimal classification when used in philosophical and scientific libraries?

Dr. WIRE. — There are a great many criticisms, chiefly among professors, who cannot agree on the Decimal classification. The sciences are constantly changing, and in some of the natural and physical sciences, such as the developments in electricity, you cannot begin to keep up with the changes; but I know that the Decimal classification is used in some large libraries, and if I am not mistaken it is still followed quite closely in Columbia. They have

discontinued it in some of the departments, but I think it still obtains in the department of science.

Miss CRUICE. — In the library to which I belong they want to change their system, and they want to know the best. I want to know of any scientific library that has used the Dewey system and found it successful.

Dr. WIRE. — I can't now think of any large scientific library that is using the Decimal system. The Academy of Sciences in this city I believe has a classification of its own. The E. C. will be very full in sciences, but it will be some time before it is out. It will be fine enough to use in a large scientific library. I have just had a letter from Mr. Cutter, who has got down as far as H, and is on the seventh classification. I should advise using the Decimal classification in natural sciences, for I think it is the best. I wish I could tell you of some large society library that is classified by it. The objections in many cases come not so much from anything against the classification as from some other point. I think I may safely recommend it as being the best for the purpose.

Miss CRUICE. — I know the Franklin Institute is changing to the Dewey.

Dr. WIRE. — That would be a very good voucher for you. In that you have the example of one of the best scientific libraries in the United States.

Miss CRUICE. — The Franklin Institute is just trying it; they have not experienced whether it is going to be successful or not. If I knew some library that had found it to be successful, it would be better.

Dr. WIRE. — Mr. Eastman, do you know of any scientific library that is using the D. C.?

W: R. EASTMAN. — No; the scientific libraries are older than the classifications.

Dr. WIRE. — Yes; they think they have the superiority of age, and are loath to change, and in some cases cannot change because they have not the money to do it with.

Miss J. S. HEYDRICK. — What would you advise as to the number of decimals to be used in a library of 15,000 or 20,000 volumes — as to the number of places beyond the decimal point, and in what classes to use these larger numbers?

Dr. WIRE. — I do not generally approve of using more than three figures beyond the decimal point for a library of that size, and the three figures I only use as a general thing in the physical sciences and in some places in literature. The amount of philosophy and theology that you would have in a library of that size could easily go inside of three figures. In sociology and in classifying some of the government publications, you will have to use in some cases the full three figures. You will not, as a general thing, have anything in philology that will necessitate a number beyond the decimal point, but in the 500s and 600s you will probably have to use the full three figures. In literature you may have to use some of the three figures. Of course, if you should have quite a little Ibsen literature, for example, you will have to go down into the finer figures, but it is then a question whether you cannot put "I" after the number and let it go.

Mrs. SANDERS. — For a person beginning work in a library of 16,000 books, would you recommend the abridged D. C.?

Dr. WIRE. — I should.

Mrs. SANDERS. — And you would continue it?

Dr. WIRE. — Most certainly. You can build on it, and eventually you can re-classify. You won't use it in fiction or juvenile anyway, and you can build on it afterwards.

A MEMBER. — In the classification in history do you advise not to go beyond the three decimal figures?

Dr. WIRE. — I don't generally go beyond that, even in a library of 15,000 or 20,000 volumes, if I can help it. Of course if you go into some of the minor European states, you have to use some of the smaller figures. You won't have enough French or English history to have to use many of the finer sub-divisions.

Mrs. SANDERS. — I have found in a library of 16,000 books that ordinarily two figures beyond a decimal is enough.

A MEMBER. — In a very small library would you have less than the original three figures? Would you have 92 for biography, or 91 for travel, for instance?

Dr. WIRE. — I don't think so. In biography I don't use the numbers at all. I simply put biography in an alphabetical arrangement.

A MEMBER. — But in collective biography?

Dr. WIRE. — For a small library I would use 920. For a library of 15,000 or 20,000 volumes,

in collective biography, I have to use two or three figures beyond the decimal point, in, for instance, Stephens' "National biography," and to bring it down to the country sub-division, because you will have Stephens, Rose, and some others, and you want all your English biographies to stand together, so you would have to use three figures there.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — Do you advise in classifying or re-classifying, instead of using the D. C., to consult other catalogs, such as the Osterhout, Jersey City, or others, and adopt their classifications bodily, without spending your time looking at the books?

Dr. WIRE. — I don't do that myself, because I can use the D. C. very well. Of course, after one has become a little expert in it, he can write a good many numbers without using the D. C. at all.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — But at the same time you are looking up the names, and it is often a good deal of help, particularly to beginners.

Dr. WIRE. — I suppose it is so, but I don't do any classification in connection with cataloging. Where you are cataloging and classifying together it would be a help, but I would not lean too much on the other catalogs, because they are classified according to some other person's ideas, and I want to go in my own way.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — If you are doubtful about it, wouldn't you want to look up the book?

Dr. WIRE. — I never look up a book when I am doubtful about it, because you never know where to end if you begin that process.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — In the classification of administration why can't we change 350 to 330?

Dr. WIRE. — I think if I had much administration that I wanted to put in political economy, I would certainly put it there.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — But it follows very closely after the books on political science.

Dr. WIRE. — That is one trouble. I don't know any one who is satisfied with the 350 part of the D. C., but in many small libraries there will not be many books intervening.

Miss VAN HOEVENBERG. — Would there be much difficulty in changing 350 to 330?

Dr. WIRE. — There would not, but if you once begin to change you get into trouble. I generally advise following the D. C. If you can't do that, then I advise taking the E. C., or making up a classification of your own.

Miss T. L. KELSO. — It is a very fatal mistake to be guided only by the D. C. in all classes. In pedagogics, for instance, the D. C. will carry many of the books on pedagogical psychology and other related topics into the 100s.

Dr. WIRE. — I put such books into 300.

Miss KELSO. — But not if you follow the D. C.

Dr. WIRE. — The question asked was whether we could push 330 forward and put the 350s into 330, and that I don't advise. But in psychology of education I simply put psychology of education into education. I don't like psychology anyway. Some of you may know why psychology was so large a division in the D. C. They had a large library on psychology in Amherst, and it and religion were given a full 200 numbers, when they ought to have gone into 100. Law and medicine are put into 100.

We will now pass to cataloging, and I will read some notes I wrote a while ago entitled,

SOME HERESIES IN CATALOGING.

(*See p.* 62.)

Miss LINDA A. EASTMAN. — There is one point that I think should be sufficiently considered, and that is in the large libraries where there are a great many attendants, and often new people coming in who have to take hold and wait on the public, I do believe most heartily in analyticals and in cross-references.

Dr. WIRE. — I think so, in a large library. In the Cleveland Public Library there are a number of attendants, but I am speaking more particularly about the small libraries. Even in a large library I believe in taking my attendants in hand so that they don't have to use a catalog.

Miss EASTMAN. — It takes some time to train an attendant to know 100,000 books and their contents.

Dr. WIRE. — No one attendant is supposed to know them all. They are divided into sections.

Miss EASTMAN. — But they are liable to be changed around, and my experience has been that the analytical has been as helpful as anything in the whole work in making the assistants really helpful to the public, even where we have free access.

Dr. WIRE. — Of course there is a good deal in that, but there is also another point against analyticals. The work we are doing in print throws out those analyticals largely. "Poole's index" throws out the analytical work that used to be done in the Peabody Library.

Miss KELSO. — Take the case of a small library where there is only one librarian who carries the catalog in his head, and suppose that librarian dies, what will you do?

Dr. WIRE. — The next librarian will come in and make a catalog for himself.

Mrs. SANDERS. — I went without a catalog for a long time. I knew something about all the books, because I began work with the library when it began, and as the books came in I knew them. There came a time when the library began to grow larger, and if I was not there the books could not be found very readily, so I suggested that it would be a good thing to have a catalog. We immediately classified our books, arranged them on the shelves, and made a card catalog. We found that ordinarily people didn't care for the catalog, but after being shown it they seemed to like it, and they are using it much more than formerly. We have open shelves and the books classified on the shelves, but I think a certain amount of analysis is necessary in a catalog, not only for the librarian, but for the readers, and especially for the public school children.

Miss N. E. BROWNE. — May I say that Mrs. Sanders' is not a dictionary catalog, but a classed catalog?

Mrs. SANDERS. — Yes; ours is a classed catalog, and I would like to know how many here have classed catalogs, and how many dictionary catalogs?

(A show of hands was had, which indicated that 12 of those present had classed catalogs, and 32 had dictionary catalogs.)

Mrs. SANDERS. — I should like a good opinion of the preference for the classed catalog expressed.

W: R. EASTMAN. — The classed catalog gives everybody an idea of what there is in the library and just what the books are, and corresponds exactly with the books on the shelves.

A MEMBER. — Don't you have a shelf list anyway, and doesn't that take the place of a classed catalog?

S. H. BERRY. — The shelf list must be arranged as the books are on the shelves. Most people have not the time to find out the arrangement of the books on the shelves. The dictionary catalog is arranged like a dictionary, and everybody knows where to find a book. I believe if I were making a thousand new catalogs I would use the dictionary form.

W: R. EASTMAN. — The best thing for the reader is to go to the shelves and the books. The next best thing is to have a reproduction of the shelves. The educational value of a classification is another point. Young persons in the schools, particularly, see the various classes of history, travel, and biography, and those are arranged in their minds. Let the class list reproduce the same thing, and they very soon look at the headings, and know under which heading the desired book is to be found, and so they have a classified mind as well as a classified library.

Miss BROWNE. — I personally do not like to use a dictionary catalog. Every one says that people can use a dictionary catalog, but I find, as the sequence of the alphabet is not taught in the public schools, ability to use the dictionary is somewhat lessened. But, granted that readers can use a dictionary catalog, what I would like to see would be a class catalog which includes not only the books as they are on the shelves, but analytically arranged in class order. Then have a subject index, mixing in alphabetical order authors and titles, so that when you look at the catalog for a certain subject you can look in the mixed catalog for those details. In this form you have the advantage of the dictionary catalog, if there is an advantage, and you have the advantage of the class catalog without its disadvantages.

A MEMBER. — I would like to know if librarians have ever made any effort to teach the sequence of the alphabet in the public schools, and give a little idea of how to use a dictionary and how to use reference books.

Mrs. SANDERS. — I am doing that always. I find there is just as much need of teachers learning about the use of catalogs as there is for pupils.

Miss EASTMAN. — The need we all realize so fully of having the use of the dictionary taught will be accomplished more completely if librarians take hold of it and enforce the teaching

in every way possible. We must bring teachers to realize the need of teaching the use of the dictionary and the catalog.

Miss HELEN E. HAINES. — If I may speak from long experience as a user of a library, and not as a librarian — and I don't think this standpoint is out of place here, because you are all looking at the subject as librarians — as a user of a library, I do not think there is any comparison in convenience or comfort or adaptability between a dictionary and a classed catalog. With a dictionary catalog you can find what you look for promptly and without trouble. When you come to explore a classification, you may just about as well give it up, if you are not pretty well versed in library technicalities. As to a card catalog, it does not seem to me that there can be any question, in the mind of the reader, as to the superiority of a printed catalog for the public. A card catalog causes more profanity, suffering, and distress among users of a public library than almost any other device, if there is not a printed catalog to supplement it. People do not understand how to use it. Not long ago a woman came into a library, went to the librarian, and asked, "Where can I look for a book?" The librarian said, "Look in the cabinets over there, and you can find any book you want." The reader went to the card catalog; she lingered over it painfully for a long time; she opened all the drawers, and looked very unhappy. Finally the librarian went to her and said, "Haven't you found a book yet?" "No," she answered; "they aren't here. There is nothing in these drawers but cards."

Dr. WIRE. — I think myself that it is more or less a waste of time and money in these days of open shelves to pay so much attention to the catalog. However, this is not a hard and fast rule, and I am speaking more particularly about the catalogs in some of the large libraries where they have become fearful and wonderful things that no one could understand. A catalog should be for the purpose of finding books and telling what is in the library. The idea that a card in a cabinet represents a book does not enter the heads of a good many readers until they have had some experience. Some of them think the cards are call-slips. All that must be taken into consideration, and in educating people up to using a card catalog I think there is a good deal of waste of time and labor. As Miss Haines said, I think the card catalog is responsible for more iniquity and hardness of the public heart than anything else I know of.

I wanted to say one thing more about rules. I don't believe in having a cataloger just starting in tied by rules. It is the blind following of rules that makes the trouble in card catalogs. It is only within a few years that the A. L. A. would permit the use of the names of George Eliot and George Sand and Charles Dickens, for instance, in the catalog. We were tied up to a rigid lot of rules, and the public were supposed to take a great deal of delight, when they wanted to find "Nicholas Nickleby," for instance, in chasing for it from "Dickens, Charles," to "Dickens, J: C: Huffam."

S. H. BERRY. — That is very well, but some of us remember when we had to do our cataloging without any rules, and it was an endless confusion. It is now a great delight that we have rules, even though one has to make a new rule every few days. It is quite important that we should have our book of printed rules and a note-book of manuscript rules added to it. Suppose we reach a book that we are in doubt about cataloging, we want to know, when we come to another one of the same sort, what we did with the first one. It is well to have on record everything we do in these peculiar cases, because all these cases are going to be duplicated some day.

Miss M. E. AHERN. — It occurs to me that a great deal of the confusion in which the public are with regard to the card catalog, is in a measure due to the librarian. Generally the post of honor in a large library is in the cataloging-room. If you are in the cataloging department you are part of the machinery that moves the whole institution. The librarian, in talking to the people of a small town about the importance of the public library and the great help it is going to be to them, never fails to mention the fine card catalog they are going to have, and gives a few mystifying touches with regard to it that mislead the public, so that when they come to the card catalog they are just a little afraid to open those drawers, for fear something will come out that they never saw before. And it seems to me that we have been a little harder on the schools than we ought to be. I don't believe there is a school in the United States to-day that doesn't make copious use of a dictionary, nor do I believe that people generally

are so ignorant about what a dictionary is as has been said.

Miss KELSO. — One important point that has been overlooked is that in most small libraries the cataloger and the librarian are one and the same person, who has just about as much as she can do in attending to the library. Then when she has a few odd moments she writes cards. My advice to the beginner is to make an author and title list, to have a few simple rules, and to follow those. It is very easy to plan largely if you have a dozen or so people to carry out the plans, but the librarian of a small library must wait until the good time comes, and she can send for one of the people who have mastered cataloging. It is, you know, possible to hire such a person. You can then go to your board and say, "We do not understand this mysterious science, but here is a creature that does know it. She is to be bought; let us buy her. Let us not worry in the least over these strange details, because we can buy the knowledge of what to do and how to do it."

Miss HELEN G. SHELDON then read a paper on

CHARGING SYSTEMS.

(*See p.* 63.)

Miss L. E. STEARNS. — In the two-book system, if you use but one card and stamp the dates on the card, how are you going to tell whether the fiction is returned or the non-fiction?

Miss SHELDON. — There are a number of different methods used in the two-book system. The Philadelphia Free Library has but one card; they stamp the date, and just after that, if the book is a classified book and not from fiction, they put a letter *C* in pencil. If a novel was taken out at the same time, the date would simply be stamped and nothing would appear opposite it. It is thus easy to see when the reader returns his book whether he has brought back the novel or the other, and which one is to be stamped off.

Miss STEARNS. — That is, if the assistant remembers to put on the letter *C*.

Miss SHELDON. — The assistant should remember to put on the letter *C*. Of course mistakes will occur. There is an article by Mr. Jones in the *Library Journal* [1895: 168–172] on that subject, in which he gives communications from a number of librarians, some advocating two cards, some advocating only one card, and I believe it is not yet decided which is better. I have sometimes used different inks for stamping the class-books and fiction, and various other devices. Some libraries write a call-number opposite the date-stamp.

BOOK-POCKETS AND BOOK MARKS.

S. H. BERRY. — Some years ago we put the date on the reader's card and put the card in the book-pocket, and we found that the reader forgot all about the date, as he did not see it. I then had a book-mark printed, stating, in the centre of the book-mark, that the book drawn on the first date would be due on the second date, and I put a few of those on the delivery-desk and let the readers help themselves when they drew books. The book-mark is in the right place when they are reading the book, and they are likely to see the date once in a while and be reminded when the book is due. This is a good scheme to let readers know when their books are due at the library, and it can be done with little cost, because we have used it for advertising. We furnished the material for the one side of the mark, and the advertisers supplied it for the other, and they paid the bill.

Miss KELSO. — I would like to ask, does anybody use a book-mark nowadays? We have talked a good deal about book-marks for library books lately, but I never met anybody who used one. I was fortunate enough to meet Miss James, of the People's Palace, some years ago, and she told me of a book-pocket device she used. It is a thin slip of manila paper, pasted in the front part of the book. This device, which I adopted and by which we were able to circulate 300 books an hour, is simple. It can be handled in about the ratio of five to one times more speedily than the book-pocket. I used it in Los Angeles, and many other people used it afterwards, and I do not think you can get one who has used it to go back to the book-pocket, which is clumsy and difficult to insert.

Mrs. SANDERS. — We have a book-mark which was evolved from the information-desk. I have in front of my desk a notice, "Ask for anything you want to know," and one day it seemed to me that it was quite as important to draw people to the library to ask for things as it was to have them ask when they got there. I could think of no better way to do this than by a book-mark, not to tell them when their books were due, but to tell them what they would find when they got to the library — and one of our prominent merchants co-operated with me in making it up. We had a book-mark printed,

which said on one side, "When in doubt on any subject consult the Public Library." The merchant's advertisement was on the other side. After using it for a time some of our readers thought it was not quite dignified, and in place of it we had new marks printed, with "When in doubt on any subject consult the Public Library" on one side, and on the other, "The library is a great kingdom." We put those in our books, and I judge of their use by the very great increase in the number of questions asked at the desk.

Miss M. B. LINDSAY. — We have just adopted a book-mark. On one side we have placed the rules in regard to soiling books and turning down leaves, and we find that useful. On the other side we have a small space reserved for calling attention to some special books. The first one stated, "Read the history of your own town," and we gave what books we had on our own city. We then followed it with, "Read the books on your own state." We expect to have this book-mark stereotyped.

Miss M. S. R. JAMES. — I should be glad to know if anybody who has used book-marks has found that the thumb-marks and the turning down of the leaves have diminished.

E. S. WILLCOX. — In order to arrive at a definite answer to that question we would have to have a committee to investigate the matter for about a year and examine the books as they came in. I don't believe it is possible to give a satisfactory answer to the question. Books will get worn and thumb-marked and dog-eared more or less. Whether or not the use of the book-mark will diminish that to a certain extent, say five or 10 per cent., is beyond the power of any of us to tell at present.

Miss M. E. AHERN. — At a library meeting in Illinois this year I was told that the use of book-marks caused less wear of the books, and that fewer stray articles were found in them.

E. S. WILLCOX. — My idea in getting up a book-mark really related to two things: first, the advantage of putting our rules on the side of the mark; and, second, the stimulus to reading by putting on other side a few of the great sayings of great men about the value of books.

JAMES WARRINGTON. — I have seen all sorts of things used as book-marks, from parcels to curling-irons and fans. People will use a book-mark of some kind or other, and the one they will use will depend upon the article which is handiest and which can be carried.

Miss EASTMAN. — Miss James may be interested to know how the book-mark has been working in Cleveland with the children. We began this winter using the Maxson book-mark, which is a little thin slip of paper. We had an instance in regard to its effect a few weeks ago. A lady was being interviewed at the receiving-desk as to the condition in which she returned a book. She was asked whether it was in that condition when she received it. She said that it was, and that a book was very sure to be returned by her in the same condition in which she got it, as her little boy was a member of the Library League and was using our book-mark. She said that a few days before he had seen her turning down a leaf, or about to turn it down, and had said, "Mamma, I shall have to report you at the library if you do that." He then got her a little thin slip of paper to mark her place with. Our children are learning from the little story on the book-mark that it does make a difference how a book is handled, and we believe that the mark is going to be of advantage.

Miss STEARNS. — If any one wants a description of the Maxson book-mark it may be found in the *Library Journal* for May.

Miss ELEANOR H. WOODRUFF read a paper on

### REFERENCE WORK.

(*See p.* 65.)

Miss STEARNS. — During the run of puzzles in Milwaukee we adopted the plan of putting on reference tables works that would be of assistance to people in solving them. But we drew the line at giving individual assistance. Some librarians adopted the method of putting together one of the puzzles and posting it up with the solution underneath, but occasionally these librarians erred, and then there was trouble and sorrow in the hearts of those who had had confidence in them.

Mrs. SANDERS. — I have enjoyed immensely helping people put together or solve such things.

Miss STEARNS. — Ought there not, however, to be a line drawn distinctly in libraries between puzzles which are gotten out purely for prizes, and questions that demand information? When people come to the library for real information, that is one thing; but when they come for the sake of getting a year's subscription to a magazine or a dollar and a half, that is quite another. How far ought the already over-worked reference librarian to go in the matter of looking up prize puzzles?

S. H. BERRY. — The recent popular puzzles gotten up by *Judge* are nothing but puns on the names of cities, on well-known books, etc., and there is no information about them. I have had a good many people come to me about them, and of course I gave books out to them, but I wouldn't give them any time in help. I told them I was busy and that they would have to look things up for themselves.

Dr. WIRE. — This is largely a question of quantity. Mrs. Sanders comes from a comparatively small library where she has but little of this sort of application, but in Chicago or Milwaukee you would be simply overwhelmed. I do not think a reference library is intended to help people in this way, but where it is only a small item, as in Mrs. Sanders' case, it is all right.

Miss LETITIA S. ALLEN. — If we put a bookmark in our books inviting people to come to the public library for anything they wish to know, and the first time they come it is for some such information, will they come again?

Dr. WIRE. — That danger exists with all people. They are likely to interpret such an invitation too literally, but you have to run your chances of that. In some cases they will be overwhelmed if you only spend a minute on them. I have found in reference work that it is a good way to gauge the amount of attention by the amount a person will hold, and the majority of them won't hold very much. The point that Miss Woodruff made about the reference librarian having a certain amount of what Yankees call "gumption," and being able to find facts and the books on the shelves, I think should rank above everything else. A person going into a library, with a fair amount of education, should learn the books and learn how to handle them, but if she has not that one gift she cannot learn. That gift is simply something which cannot be acquired, though the persons lacking it may get a certain formula which enables them to answer questions and do a certain amount of work.

W: R. EASTMAN. — Our rule in Albany is that if a question takes the time of an assistant for more than a few minutes, the charge is a dollar a name. Of course, everybody is at liberty to consult the books themselves.

JAMES WARRINGTON. — Isn't that a question for the individual? I don't think it needs much argument that information given on such subjects as puzzles is utterly worthless. Of course librarians must discriminate between those who do deserve help and those who do not. If a librarian is approached by a person who is earnestly seeking for information, I think he owes it to the institution with which he is connected to place every facility in the way of that person. I know when a student has come to me for information on a given question, or a scientific man has come to me stating that he had to give a lecture and he was rather rusty on the subject, I have sometimes had as many as 40 or 50 books laid out for him, and I never had to regret any trouble taken in that direction. For a student in a certain line of research, all the help and all the information which a librarian can give will not only benefit the person to whom it is given, but the giver also more than he thinks. I always found that in searching for information for others, I was largely benefited myself, and hence I never hesitated to even spend days hunting up subjects for those who were really deserving of such help.

Miss M. W. PLUMMER. — I think there is one point that has been overlooked. It is sometimes a kinder thing to teach people how to look for themselves, although it may take longer, than it is to find information for them. Children learn very quickly how to use a library, and they do it because if you give them a hint they will go on along those lines. I think very often that to give a searcher a hint as to how to go to work is really the most educative thing you can do, and in a very short time those people will come with more pleasure to the reference department, because they know how to use it.

Dr. WIRE. — Miss Plummer's point is well taken, and also Mr. Warrington's. It is, as he says, a question for the individual. In the public libraries the reference work is largely for school children, and in many cases you can start them, and they can go on themselves. Certain individuals always want everything laid out for them, and in certain reference libraries there is more to be done than in some of the other libraries. I have had experience with lawyers and with college men and with physicians, and of course that is entirely outside of the experience of a public library with children. The reference worker, like every other worker in the library, will have to use judgment and discretion, and you must know your individual and how to take him. As a nation we ought to pay more attention to reference work than we do. Our English brothers and sisters are doing good work in the refer-

ence library — better work and more of it than we are. We are so engaged in getting a large circulation that in a good many libraries we are neglecting reference work.

JAMES WARRINGTON. — In speaking of helping people, I do not wish my words to convey the meaning that I believe in finding everything for everybody. Not at all. The most deserving students will be perfectly satisfied if you put them on the track of their subject. I did not hunt up the subjects, but I found the books containing the material, and then the users had to search for themselves. I think in reference libraries in this country a great mistake is made in keeping the books away from the people. I have had libraries of 100,000 volumes in my charge, and I never lost one book a year, nor can I recall more than one case of mutilation; but I had a habit which I do not find adopted in libraries here, and in neglecting which a great mistake is made. That is, the charging-desk should be at the entrance to the library. I consider this of vital importance. Instead of having the charging-desk in the middle of the library or at the far end, so that you do not see the people going in and out, my charging-desk was always at the entrance of the library, so that persons going in deposited their books, and persons going out were sure to get their books registered.

W: R. EASTMAN. — Speaking of the location of the charging-desk, I was much interested in a branch of the Cleveland Public Library that we visited last year. Coming into the room you could see the books on each side. You passed down about 20 or 30 feet between two rails, passing into the middle of the room. You could then go behind the rails and consult the books with freedom. You then returned to the middle of the room, where the charging-desk was, and passed again through that long space before leaving the room.

Miss EASTMAN. — The first year we circulated something over 60,000 volumes from that branch. The yearly report showed a loss of one book.

W: R. EASTMAN. — More than that, I think the public appreciate the privilege of going behind the railing; the mere fact that you have a rail there showing that they were permitted to enjoy the privilege of going behind it.

Adjournment was taken at 12.10.

## *SIXTH SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 24.)

President BRETT called the meeting to order at 9.20 a.m. In the absence of C: K. BOLTON, treasurer, Miss NINA E. BROWNE, assistant treasurer, read the

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

C: K. BOLTON, *Treasurer, in account with the* AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

| 1896. | DR. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. 1. | To balance reported (Cleveland conference, p. 91) | | $1558 14 |
| Sept. 1. | 1896, to May, 31, 1897: | | |
| | To fees for 528 annual memberships, at $2 each: | | |
| | For 1893, 1 | $2 00 | |
| | For 1894, 4 | 8 00 | |
| | For 1895, 11 | 22 00 | |
| | For 1896, 143 | 286 00 | |
| | For 1897, 366 (incl. $2.03 from England) | 732 03 | |
| | For 1898, 3 | 6 00 | |
| | | | $1056 03 |
| | To fees for 40 annual payments, at $5 each: | | |
| | For 1896, 4 | $20 00 | |
| | For 1897, 36 | 180 00 | |
| | | | $200 00 |
| | To check returned, entered on Cr. side | $25 00 | |
| | To sale of conference proceedings | 3 00 | |
| | To interest on deposits | 4 20 | |
| | | | $32 20 |
| | | | $2846 37 |

| 1896. | | Cr. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. | 3. | By C: A. Nelson, recorder's expenses, Cleveland conference | $ 6 97 |
| Sept. | 4. | By Bost. Bk. Co., circulars to trustees | 26 03 |
| Sept. | 4. | By Library Bureau, circulars, etc | 11 86 |
| Sept. | 4. | By E. H. Merriman, typewriting and stenographic work | 7 25 |
| Sept. | 4. | By Library Bureau, circulars and cuts | 42 42 |
| Sept. | 4. | By J. C. Dana, stamps, circulars, and telegrams | 12 25 |
| Sept. | 4. | By H. L. Elmendorf, postage, telegrams, expressage | 35 60 |
| Sept. | 4. | By F. T. Boland, stenographic work and expenses Cleveland conference | 61 15 |
| Sept. | 9. | By Carson-Harper Co., stationery for J. C. Dana | 4 75 |
| Sept. | 19. | By H. L. Elmendorf, expenses at Cleveland | 35 00 |
| Sept. | 19. | By Miss Hewins, postals | 12 50 |
| Oct. | 3. | By Miss M. S. Cutler, postage, etc | 17 00 |
| Oct. | 3. | By C. F. Williams, printing | 71 35 |
| Oct. | 20. | By Langford and Thompson, typewriting | 10 00 |
| 1897. | | | |
| Jan. | 1. | By R. R. Bowker, programs | 1 00 |
| Jan. | 1. | By F. T. Boland, 2 copies proceedings Cleveland conference | 61 20 |
| Jan. | 1. | By Library Bureau, index cards and oak outfit | 13 65 |
| Jan. | 20. | By C. K. Bolton, treasurer, postage | 1 00 |
| Jan. | 20. | By G. W. Cole, Burr index, express, telegrams | 7 60 |
| Feb. | 3. | By C. A. W. Spencer, envelopes and paper | 6 75 |
| Feb. | 6. | By 800 2-cent stamps | 16 00 |
| Feb. | 8. | By 700 postal cards and address | 8 75 |
| Feb. | 8. | By R. P. Hayes, 5000 handbooks | 98 35 |
| Feb. | 15. | By C. K. Bolton, postage | 1 50 |
| Feb. | 24. | By W. C. Lane, for Publishing Section | 200 00 |
| Mch. | 3. | By R. P. Hayes, additional for handbook, found to be included in charge of Feb. 8, and check returned. See Dr. side of account | 25 00 |
| Mch. | 3. | By C. A. W. Spencer, return postals, address | 5 10 |
| Mch. | 29. | By Lizzie S. Allen, clerical work | 13 00 |
| Apr. | 10. | By C. K. Bolton, postage | 2 00 |
| Apr. | 12. | By Chase's Express Co., box from Pittsburgh | 1 85 |
| Apr. | 21. | By Kay Printing House, proceedings, 1896 | 657 89 |
| Apr. | 21. | By R. P. Hayes, secretary, sundries | 57 75 |
| Apr. | 26. | By stamped envelopes for Finance Committee | 1 35 |
| Apr. | 26. | By C. K. Bolton, stamps | 2 00 |
| Apr. | 26. | By R. P. Hayes, express | 50 |
| Apr. | 30. | By C. A. Nelson, for proceedings, 1896, and mailing | 168 30 |
| Apr. | 30. | By C. A. Nelson, index to proceedings, 1896 | 40 00 |
| | | Aggregate payments to June 1, 1896 | $1744 67 |
| | | Check no. 18, not yet presented | 50 |
| | | Total amount withdrawn | $1744 17 |
| June | 1. | Balance on deposit: | |
| | | At New England Trust Co., Bost | $1002 47 |
| | | At Brookline Nat'l Bank | 99 73 |
| | | | $1102 20 |
| | | | $2846 37 |

The present status of membership (June 1, 1897) is:

| | |
|---|---|
| Honorary members | 2 |
| Life fellows | 2 |
| Life members | 28 |
| Annual members (paid for 1897) | 366 |
| Annual fellows and library members | 36 |
| Total | 434 |

This is not a fair estimate, as the early date set for the annual meeting this year makes the financial year shorter than usual, and because many who have recently paid for 1896 will pay for 1897 later in the year.

The annual fellowship plan, with its fee of $5, was instituted at a time when the Association needed money. Now that the immediate occasion for the increase of funds has gone by, many of the fellows have preferred to be transferred to the annual membership rolls.

During the period covered by this report, 138 new members have been added to the rolls, 101 have resigned, and 1 has died.

There are now on hand the following publications:

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | copies of Milwaukee conference (1886). |
| 32 | " " Thousand Islands conference (1887). |
| 79 | " " St. Louis conference (1889). |
| 17 | " " White Mountains conference (1890). |
| 24 | " " San Francisco conference (1891). |
| 6 | " " Lakewood conference (1892). |
| 10 | " " Chicago conference (1893). |
| 74 | " " Lake Placid conference (1894). |
| 147 | " " Denver conference (1895). |
| 99 | " " Cleveland conference (1896). |
| 59 | " " Cleveland conference, Trustees' Section. |

*Necrology.*

Miss Mary J. Doolittle, (no. 1442,) for 10 years librarian of the Williams Free Library Beaver Dam, Wis., died at her home in Beaver Dam, on Friday, April 2, 1897. She gave an enthusiastic and unselfish devotion to the library with which she was so long associated; her work was a labor of love, and the growth and usefulness of the library were at once her strongest ambition and her greatest pride. One who knew her work says: "She was tenderly loved by all the children of her home town, and she watched the reading of each one with an almost maternal solicitude. The boys and girls came to it as the book-loving child to its own library." She continued her work at the library until within a few weeks of her death. About five weeks since, she accepted a vacation, to see if rest and medical treatment in another city would not benefit her fast-failing health. The intention to seek rest and change elsewhere was not realized, for with the cessation of work came a quick decline of health, and it was found impossible to carry out the plan. Miss Doolittle was a member of the A. L. A., and was also a member of the Wisconsin Library Association, in which she took an active interest. — *Library Journal.*

*Voted.* — That the treasurer's report be referred to the Finance Committee for audit.

In the absence of JAMES L. WHITNEY, chairman, W: E. FOSTER read the

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. George W. Cole, who was elected treasurer of the American Library Association at the Cleveland meeting, felt compelled to resign his position. The funds of the Association were lodged temporarily in the hands of this committee. On the election of Mr. Charles K. Bolton as treasurer the sum received, with accrued interest, was turned over to him.

The payments which have been made by the two treasurers have been authorized by the committee and in all cases have met with their approval. Although the expenses of the Association have been large, a generous balance ($1102.20) remains to its credit. For this thanks are due to the persistent efforts of the treasurer. In the opinion of the committee the time has come for the consideration by the Association whether such officers as secretary, treasurer, and recorder might not appropriately receive a moderate salary as a partial return for services rendered.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES L. WHITNEY,
A. W. WHELPLEY,
WILLIAM E. FOSTER, } *Finance Committee.*

JUNE 1, 1897.

The report was received and ordered recorded, and, on motion of S: S. GREEN, it was

*Voted,* That two members be appointed by the chair to co-operate with the Finance Committee in any work that may be laid before

it. The president later appointed as additional members of this committee H. J. Carr and E. H. Anderson.

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

The secretary announced again that invitations for the 1898 conference of the Association had been received from Omaha, Neb.; Lincoln, Neb.; Jamestown, N. Y.; Pine Bluff, N. C., and Atlanta, Ga.

J. K. HOSMER. — I received last evening from Minneapolis a telegram signed by the Mayor, the Library Board, and by the Commercial Club, which is our principal club, extending a cordial invitation to come to Minneapolis next year.

Pres. BRETT. — The secretary will add that invitation from Minneapolis to the list. The first thing for the Association to decide will be whether they will themselves determine upon the place of meeting or whether they will refer it to the Executive Board for decision.

A MEMBER. — I move it be referred to the Executive Board.

MELVIL DEWEY. — This question has come up for a great many years. As a board of eight persons coming together, the Executive Board do not know the general wish of the Association without a canvass, and I move to amend that motion by referring the matter to the Executive Board with the power to select, expressing the preference of the Association for Chautauqua Lake early in July.

In regard to the invitation from Jamestown: I favor going there because we have never been to Chautauqua Lake. Chautauqua is one the great educational homes of the age, and of the results of the work there will be of greater interest to us as librarians than any other educational work in the world. It seems to me it is exceedingly desirable the Association should go there early in the season and yet after the work has been done, and see with our own eyes what has been accomplished, and receive a revelation and an inspiration. The place is new to us, and, in itself, it is a beautiful place, very central and easily accessible by the railroads.

J. N. LARNED. — I second the amendment, and in doing so I would like to say that it really means, as I understand it, neither Jamestown literally, nor the Chautauqua Assembly Grounds literally. It means a point of meeting that will be between those two. Chautauqua Lake is surrounded with summer resorts and hotels, and it is the intention of those, I believe, who extend the invitation to the Association, to have the meeting held where it will be convenient of access to the Assembly Grounds and to Jamestown.

Miss ANNE WALLACE. — I wish I was a great big man like Mr. Dewey, for then I think what I have to say would have more weight in the presentation of an invitation to this Association from the Mayor and Council of Atlanta, from the press of the state, and from our own officers of our local library association. I base my claim on a wide field when you remember there is no state support for a public library in most of the southern states. In regard to the time of meeting: I know that there is a prejudice against coming south in summer, but when you remember the altitude of Atlanta — 1100 feet — you will concede that that is in its favor. As to its temperature, I think, on comparison with other capitals of the country, the climate of Atlanta is very cool. In regard to the public condition of affairs in the south, I feel that a word of explanation is necessary. To begin with, a people living out of doors nine months in the year do not feel the need of literary recreation like people in colder climates; therefore, the library movement there has not received the impulse that it has in other sections of the country. Another reason is, in the south we are all Democrats, and the idea suggested by Mr. Jefferson, that the individual must not look to the state for aid in educational matters as these do not concern the department of government in any way, has rather made it a new feature for the people of the south to expect help from the state or municipality. Now that library work is so thoroughly identified with educational matters is the time to push this question. As to the social features of our meeting in the south: The south is proverbially hospitable, and while I do not think that we can ever quite meet the hospitality that you have received in the northern cities, where there are so many hard dollars to back hospitality, I do think it would be a treat to a great many people to visit the south and see the other part of the American people there.

The invitation to Atlanta presented by Miss WALLACE was supported by Dr. CYRUS ADLER, A. W. TYLER, W: I. FLETCHER, and C: A. NELSON.

MELVIL DEWEY. — As the discussion seems to have narrowed to deciding between Chautauqua and Atlanta, it strikes me it would be only courteous to allow Miss Hazeltine, who is not now present, to present her invitation to Chautauqua, as she came here from Chautauqua for that purpose. I therefore move that this matter be laid on the table until this afternoon's session. *Voted.*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

MELVIL DEWEY. — I move that the election of officers be postponed until the close of this session, and that the polls be open from 12 to three o'clock, so those here this morning can vote and those who come this afternoon can vote. *Voted.*

C: A. NELSON. — I move that the judges be instructed to tally the votes by the register of those that are registered at this meeting, so people will know they are members of this Association, and also in order to secure a more complete register than we have at present. *Lost.*

MELVIL DEWEY. — I move at the opening of the polls an opportunity be given for other nominations, and that nominating speeches be made at the opening of the polls. *Voted.*

The next order of business was introduced by Dr. J: S. BILLINGS, who described

THE PROPOSED BUILDING FOR THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, WITH PLANS.

Dr. BILLINGS. — On the 19th of May last the governor of the state of New York signed an act by virtue of which the authorities of the city of New York had to furnish a site on Bryant Park, running from 40th to 42d street, between 5th and 6th avenues, in the city of New York, and to erect thereon a building from plans which are to be prepared and furnished by the trustees of the New York Public Library, to be approved by the Board of Apportionment; the total cost not to exceed two and a half millions of dollars. The trustees of the Public Library first caused to be prepared a schedule list of the accommodations which would be desirable in such a library. Then they appointed a special committee of advisors, consisting of Professor Ware, professor of architecture in Columbia College, Mr. Bernard Green, a skilled engineer, and constructor of the new Congressional Library, and myself, as the director of the library, to prepare terms to obtain plans by competition among architects.

The first question was as to whether there should be one or two competitions. It was determined that there had better be two. The first or preliminary competition is open to all architects in Greater New York, and calls simply for sketch plans or general designs for the building. From the plans sent in on this sketch competition, 12 are to be selected by the committee of advisors. From those 12, the names being then known to the executive committee of the board of trustees, they are to select not more than six, and then they are to invite those six and six other architects — not necessarily all from the city of New York — to enter into the second or final competition. So, there would be not more than 12 in the second competition, and an unlimited number in the first — perhaps 100. I know that at least 240 architects have applied for the specifications and general directions for the first competition.

The object of the first competition is partly to make sure that there shall be no great genius in New York who shall not have an opportunity to present his ideas ; that among the young men who have just graduated there shall be nobody who has not had a chance to present what he has got to present as the best possible scheme. Another object is to enable the executive committee to decide two or three questions as to the general plan : the general arrangement of the building. After that has been settled, then for the second competition the specifications may be somewhat detailed as to the arrangement and size of rooms, arrangement of windows in certain rooms, and so on.

In presenting the list of rooms and accommodations which were considered desirable, two or three rough sketches were made showing how that amount of space might be included in a building at a reasonable cost and carry out certain definite ideas as to what is desired in the library. At first, it seemed to be considered a little doubtful as to whether it was expedient to publish any such sketches as these, lest they might limit the genius of the architect ; that the architects might feel bound by that particular plan and would not branch out as they would if they were given no directions whatever. But it was concluded as a whole, after conferring with several of our architects,

that it would be well to give some definite directions of this kind.

Now as to the schedule of rooms, I need not read it as it has all been printed in the last number of the *Library Journal*, with a reproduction of the rough sketch plans which were furnished.* I will simply refer to some points by the aid of this blackboard. The stack-room calls for 1,200,000 volumes, which, at eight volumes per lineal foot, would require 150,000 lineal feet of shelving arranged in about seven shelves to each stack floor. That of course does not include the books put in the free reference shelves and reading-rooms. As to the large public reading-rooms, it is estimated that space for 800 readers should be furnished, allowing 30 square feet to each, with space for catalogs, and so on, which gives a total of 26,800 square feet. It is considered that it is not desirable to attempt to provide for all in one room; that it will be better to divide that space into two or three rooms. In the first place we would not have 800 readers, probably, at one time; it may be five years before we have so many as that at one time, and we need not care for the whole group of rooms with a limited number of readers: only so much space need be heated and lighted as is required for the number of readers at that time.

There is a demand for a periodical-room, 4000 square feet, with 1000 lineal feet of shelving. There is to be a newspaper-room of about 4000 square feet in area, and that should be on the first floor as well as the periodical-room. There is a newspaper store-room for storing files of older newspapers which we are endeavoring to secure, with an area of 5000 square feet. On the drawings that is shown on the third floor next the reading-rooms. That is a mistake: it should be down below at the base of the stacks, for the space where it is indicated on the drawing is needed for reference-rooms.

The patents-room is to contain 2500 feet of shelving and about 3000 square feet of space. On the diagram that is put on the first floor, but it should be on the second. The same is true for the public documents room. There is a children's room, which is on the first floor near the entrance. It is too small, I think, but when you move the public documents room and the patents-room upstairs, you get ample space for it.

There is a library for the blind which should be on the first floor. There are five or six special reading-rooms, each with about 1000 feet of shelving, capable of storing 7000 or 8000 volumes of special books, and provision for 40 or 50 readers in each room.

There is a special manuscript department. We have already a valuable collection of manuscripts, and the space provided is probably too small. It is just about right for what we have now, and it will have to be increased somewhat for future use. There are special work-rooms for special students; a small room, about 10 by 15 feet, with shelving for 200 or 300 volumes, where a man can go and have a stenographer and typewriter and be entirely free from noise and dust and confusion.

So much for the reference department; for the provision for scholars. Under the terms of the act, the New York Public Library is to furnish a free lending department, and it is to be open every day in the year, and evenings as well as day time. The specifications call for 5000 square feet in this room. It must be close or contiguous to the stacks, and there must be at least one delivery-counter not less than 40 feet, and seats for at least 100 waiting. Then we have in the New York Public Library special collections that have to be provided for. We have to provide for the Lenox picture gallery; for the Stuart collection, which contains a large number of pictures and *bric-à-brac* of different kinds, besides several thousand volumes of illustrated books. We shall want a photograph-room, which, of course, will be on the top floor.

Then, coming to the administrative department, we have the trustees'-room, the directors'-room, an order and checking room, a cataloging-room, which must connect easily with the order-room and the receiving-room; a receiving-room, a packing-room, an accession department, which must connect with the stacks on the one hand and the cataloging department on the other; a duplicate and exchange room; a bindery and a printing room, superintendent's office; reception-rooms, one for members of the staff, one for visitors, and one for the women's department; a public comfort department and lunch-room; one for boys and junior attendants, and one for the librarians and assistant librarians. It is not thought well to provide a lunch-room for the public. There will be eight or 10 small rooms containing about 200 square feet

* *L. J.*, June, 1897, p. 296–301.

each for store-rooms; a telephone-room, public telephone, and probably also a house telephone exchange office, which rooms should communicate with each other. Then the engineer's department will contain the dynamos, boilers, workshop-rooms, engineer's-room, etc. There will be a large lecture-room seating about 600; a class-room seating about 150; lavatories, and so forth: elevators, lifts, and other necessary mechanism of the building.

In suggesting the arrangement of all these rooms indicated on the diagrams, I had two main points in view. One was the readiest possible accessibility to the main store of books in the stacks, while providing for a considerable quantity of books in separate reading-rooms. The second was the capacity for the extension of this library without interfering with what had already been constructed. The general principle of the scheme which is proposed consists of a system of stacks 250 feet long by 75 feet wide, built up from the ground, facing to the west, on the free side of the building, which is towards the open park. Around those stacks and in contact with them at each end, in front, and on the top, are the rooms which are to be supplied with books from those stacks, getting access to the stacks on each face except the outside looking towards Bryant Park. When we come to make an extension of this building, we simply take in two more open courts of the same size and go between the courts and build another set of stacks and rooms. We then have two more open courts exactly like these.

The reading-rooms in this plan are on the top of the stacks and are served by a well going down into the stack, with the simplest possible form of machinery for announcing down into the stack what is to be brought up, and for bringing it up.

The lending delivery room is 50 feet wide and 75 feet long. The delivery-counter will go straight across and be 50 feet in length, and would naturally be divided into about five parts. Whether that is large enough to accommodate the number of people and to accommodate the number of books for those who wish to borrow and select books is a question. I think there ought to be at least 10,000 selected books out there.

What the trustees and those who are charged with the duty of preparing these specifications and details for the second competition desire is, first the opinion of librarians as to the best means of making these arrangements; whether it is unnecessary to call for so much space; whether it would be better to have a somewhat smaller building — it can be reduced somewhat, leaving a little more money for decoration — and in particular, whether this general principle of arrangement is more or less satisfactory than some other plans of arrangement.

We may say nowadays that there are three general schemes for the arrangement of a large library. The first is that of the convent, built around courts, passing from one room through other rooms in order to get at any room you wish. That plan nowadays practically is not considered at all. Then comes the general scheme of one large reading-room on the first floor, having the walls lined with books, making a very impressive appearance, offering inducements to sightseers and to everybody to come in and see what a magnificent thing it is. The large central room may be circular or octagonal, and surmounted by a dome, with tier upon tier of books rising one above the other. The great impulse to that style of arrangement was given by the reading-room of the British Museum, which was an after-thought and an expedient. They roofed over the central square in the quadrilateral, making a circular reading-room and filling up the corners left between the walls of the circle and the square with stacks. That reading-room is certainly an impressive one to enter. It is not open to the public. The general crowd cannot stray in and out; you must enter by a special card. Following that design is the new Congressional Library, the main feature of which is the central reading-room crowned by a dome, and from this reading-room the stacks radiate in the form of a cross. Another variation is to make the central room an octagon and carry a parallelogram out from each face of the octagon, devoting some of these to stacks.

Another plan or general scheme of structure for a library is that advocated by Mr. Poole and exemplified in the Newberry Library, of which floor plans are here shown. Here also is the plan of the Chicago Public Library, which is a rectangular building three stories in height, the general shape being like that of the Boston Public Library. It is not necessary

for my purpose to go into the details of those plans.

Now, the trustees of the New York Public Library desire to obtain the opinions of librarians who have given some consideration to this subject and who have had some experience in building or in the management of large libraries. They desire such opinions upon three or four questions. First, is it desirable to put the main reading-rooms on the upper floor, giving access by elevators, the understanding being that you will have to go up two flights at least, but you will have large passenger elevators as well? Will a certain number of people, old or infirm, perhaps, be deterred from coming and making use of those reading-rooms by the fact that they are up two flights of stairs and it is necessary to go up by elevator, and will it therefore be advisable that some sacrifice be made to get those reading-rooms down on the lower floor?

It is unnecessary for me to set forth the particular advantages of these plans. I shall rather point out some of the defects. The controlling reasons which led to putting the main reading-rooms on the upper floor were: to get as far away from the noise and from the dust of the street as possible; to get light from above, so as to have the walls free for book-shelving; to get the most central possible delivery of books on the shortest line from the stacks with the least complication of machinery; to keep the loaning part of the business on the first floor, as easy as possible of access; to have the periodical-room and the newspaper-room also on the first floor with the easiest possible access, but to have the special reading-rooms for special scholars, and the private rooms which require special cards for admission, on the second floor, away from sightseers as far as possible and away from the general crowd. Those are the reasons in favor of this particular arrangement.

The objections to it were, first, that it may not be possible to make as imposing an architectural feature of the building on this plan as might be possible by some other plan; second, that with a stack as wide as that, arranged like that, artificial light in the centre will be a necessity at all times. In almost all large stacks now, as in the Boston Public Library, and in libraries without stacks, such as the Astor Library, we have to use electric light to find books during a considerable portion of the day, and some days all day. Very often you cannot read the titles of books in the back part of the stack without the aid of electric light. But I do not think that is any serious objection.

Then as to the general size of the room. Is the building too big? Is it unnecessarily large? Eight hundred readers seems a very large number to provide space for at once. Some of our people are a little doubtful as to whether we are going to reach 800 in 20 years. Then we are certainly going to extend this building, so far as human foresight can judge, because this building is not going to hold the books coming in for more than 25 years; the books by accession, by gift, by legacy, and by purchase. Now, we want a plan by which, when the time comes, we can double the capacity of the library, or the stack capacity, or increase its reading-room capacity without interfering with the daily work of the library or with the administration part which is already completed. It can be done under this plan very readily. If you extend it by taking in two more courts 75 by 100 feet and getting another stack 350 feet long with a reading-room on top, adding stack-room at the present height for another 1,500,000 volumes, or, by carrying your stacks up higher, for 2,500,000 or 3,000,000 volumes, then you have just covered the reservoir. Then you have the whole of Bryant Park to extend into in the middle and latter part of the next century if you desire to. You can very readily put in 8,000,000 volumes in storage stacks, with reading-rooms, going upon this general plan.

The trustees also desire the views of architects, and hope to get them through this first system of free and open competition, in which the architects are told that these plans are given merely as suggestions, and that they can suggest any other possible way they like. It is even suggested to them that the trustees would like to see some designs showing the large reading-room on the first floor. And with the combination of what they get from architects, and what I hope they will obtain from the librarians here in this discussion, and from a number of librarians whom I have asked to furnish suggestions and criticisms, I hope it will be possible to prepare a set of specifications for the second competition which will yield fairly satisfactory results.

JOHN EDMANDS. — I am very glad that Dr. Billings has no idea of making a great show reading-room, and I am very much pleased with the general outline of his plan.

J. N. LARNED. — I think we will all agree that these plans present a remarkably careful study of the conditions and the demands in this great building, which, in some respects, may almost be said to be the most important undertaking in library architecture that we have ever had in this country, second, at least, only to that of the Congressional Library at Washington.

There are one or two suggestions that I would like to make with regard to the questions raised by Dr. Billings, and the first is as to the size of some of the accommodations provided. It looks to me as though the most important department of library work in the future is to be on the two lines of the travelling library and the children's department. When I first examined these plans the first question that occurred to me was with regard to the accommodations provided in the future for those two lines of work: the travelling library — with the delivery station, perhaps, in connection with it — and the children's department. The provision suggested for the children's department is limited to 50 readers. If it is the intention in New York to popularize this work as it is being popularized elsewhere in the country, I think the children's department should be provided with accommodations for 500 readers rather than 50. In the children's room in the Buffalo Library, which has not yet been open a year, and has been carried on under rather adverse circumstances, we have had on many occasions, on Saturdays and on Sundays, more than 500 readers, and certainly in the city of New York if this work is to be developed on the line which seems to be the line for the future, I think a far greater provision will be needed than has been proposed so far.

With regard to travelling libraries, I do not find in the plans the accommodation that will be necessary for that great undertaking, which I should suppose would become in New York, as it is becoming elsewhere, a very important matter. There is a general receiving and delivery room provided in the basement of the building, but I think Dr. Billings would probably find it necessary to revise that considerably and arrange for a future of very large work in the matter of sending books outside of the library for free use, and bringing them back.

With regard to readers, the general intention of these rooms is an admirable one. The plan of this library is for work and not for show, and these large rooms on the upper floor are going to present a very great advantage. So far as a great number of the readers and students who will visit those rooms are concerned, the use of an elevator to reach the upper floors will be a matter of no importance; but, on the other hand, there is a considerable class of people who ought to be considered — these are the people who run hastily into the library at the noon hour or during a visit downtown just on some small matter of reference. They want to use the library for 10 minutes or half an hour, and it is a serious matter for them to be obliged to go to the upper floor of the building. I should think there might be a modification of the plans so as to keep at least one reading-room on the main floor for just that class of readers.

E. C. RICHARDSON. — It seems to me that the plans here are admirable, all the way through. In the first place, I do not think there is any objection whatever to a reading-room on the top floor. I do not think that anybody living in New York, where elevators are so constantly used, would find it any trouble at all to reach the reading-room on the upper floor. There is one partial criticism in respect to the location of the special students' reading-room. If it was an ordinary room for instruction the matter might be overlooked almost entirely, but I have found that the books desirable to use in special research branch out into almost all parts of a general reference library, whatever the special subject of the research may be. If the suite of rooms for the special student could be placed in a little closer proximity to the general reading-room, and still keep their quietness, it would be of advantage to those who use them in connection with special work.

MELVIL DEWEY. — It occurred to me when Dr. Billings was speaking about this plan for his library and remarking on its growth for the next century, that there was another thing to be reckoned with, and that was the possibility the park might be used for something else, and the desirability of securing as much as possible of that park now. Instead of building these courts in this compact form, I would be better

pleased if you would build around the outside of the park and leave Bryant Park in the centre of the library. It would be a little less compact in some matters of administration, but by the distribution of the circulating library in one place and the various reading-rooms in others, very little extra service in the building would be required, and it would be much more satisfactory. The library will do well to procure the park while public sentiment is in favor of its procurement, and get as large a part of the park as possible.

As to the reading-room on the top floor: 20 years ago I made the same suggestion, and I am glad to hear testimony so uniformly in its favor. There are many people who are afflicted with worn-out and exhausted nerves — the American disease — and who cannot do good work where the noise is distracting, and on that account they prefer being on an upper floor where quiet may be had. When we moved the library school in Albany from the third to the fifth floor, it was almost beyond belief to find what a difference there was in the noises of the city in that matter of 60 feet in height.

I do not agree with the suggestion that the public should not have access to the lunch-room. Students who go to New York and want a little lunch ought not to be compelled to go out for it. It is a great nuisance for a student to be compelled to go outside of the building where he is at work in order to get the little lunch he requires, and if it could be had in the building it would certainly be a great convenience. Another thing is that it would be desirable to have a general public entrance not only on Fifth avenue, but at the southwest corner of the building, because a great many people have to go in that direction to reach the elevated railroads, and would find it a considerable saving if they could pass out in that direction.

I feel that these plans have been more carefully studied over than any others, and we are therefore likely to get a building that will be satisfactory. The new Congressional Library building is magnificent, yet when one comes to look it over one sees that, while the reading-room is there, a great many of the details are left to be worked out. The space is there; the building has been built wisely enough to allow for plans to be worked out; but there is no adequate plan for the administration department. Dr. Billings spoke as if he was fearful the trustees might criticise the amount of space devoted to the administration department. In our little club-house in the Adirondacks, our kitchen was too small one year and we doubled the size of it; the next year we doubled it again; finally we devoted to this administrative department of the club one of the largest rooms of the club-house; and this year when we came to see the kitchen, the first comment that was made was it would be necessary to double its size. Now, that is about the way it will be in regard to this library, when it comes to the administrative department. It is sometimes difficult at first to realize how much space is a necessity in economical administration.

Dr. B. C. Steiner. — I rise to give my hearty support to the idea of the upper and central reading-room. A reading-room on the upper floor will have better ventilation and more cool breezes in summer than a ground-floor reading-room, and will take up much less space. As to the other question, in our modern life a high building ought not to disturb any of us. All of us go up and down in elevators in buildings two or three times a day, sometimes as far up as the 10th floor, and if we do that we certainly should not hesitate to do the same thing if we want to select a book. Most readers do not go up for three or four minutes. My experience with library readers is that most of them come for at least half an hour. The only criticism I have to make on the reading-room is that I would like to see the special rooms a little closer to the reference library room. The special students want to be fairly close to the main source of supply. If the special rooms are to be away from the main source of supply, though it may not be a very great inconvenience, still, if a book is wanted in a hurry it involves a little delay. And it also seems to me that the compactness of the building is one of its main advantages; that a building spread out would be a serious mistake. We may put it down as one of the principles of economics which govern library administration that the efficiency of the service diminishes directly with the square of the distance; that the further off you have to go from the centre of supply the more time you must take, and the closer you have everything together the better and much more desirable the plan will be.

J. K. Hosmer. — Although Minneapolis is a small city — of about 200,000 population — our

library has a circulation of 600,000, which gives us, of course, a very large per capita circulation. We have attained this circulation to a large extent by having branches, and stations, and sub-stations in the public schools. It seems to me that a public library in order to attain its fullest usefulness must have all possible apparatus for distribution, and I should say that in a great public library like that of the city of New York there should be exceedingly ample provision made for the sending out of books from the centre to branches and stations and sub-stations; and with the exposition given us by Dr. Billings it does not appear that such provision has been fully made.

C: C. SOULE. — I take great pleasure in endorsing very heartily from the standpoint of library administration and common sense the plans for the building of this library. And I think we ought to emphasize not so much differences of opinion and our criticisms on minor points as the fact that we approve the course and the result so far as it is arrived at. Dr. Billings asked for criticisms on one or two specific points, and one was in regard to the reading-room. It seems to me the merits of the plan he sketched out have not been quite elaborated enough. We all know there are differences in large libraries in regard to the method of arranging the rooms. We have newspaper-rooms and a reading-room for magazines, where people drop in for half an hour or so, and these ought to be near the entrance. But the main use of the main reading-room of a large library is by students who want particularly two things: one, to be free from noise or interruption, and the other to be as near as possible to the books they want, so that the fewest possible attendants can bring the largest number of books. The plan of putting the reading-room directly over the stacks is an admirable one in two or three particulars: it gives an admirable room, quiet and cosey, and more than that, it puts the readers right near the stacks where they can get the books in the shortest possible time. Another excellent point in the plan is that the reading-room may be enlarged in the same proportion as the stacks are enlarged. When there are additional books with additional use for them, the stacks may be built right out and the reading-room extended without any difficulty. The question was asked as to whether the building was unnecessarily large. Any one who has had any experience in the matter will say: no, you should get as large a building as you can for the money you have to pay for it. So long as you can leave room for expansion in building and provide for rearrangement, you should make the building as large as you possibly can. It seems to me that we can give very hearty commendation to the general characteristics of the plan, as against a showy plan having large and lofty rooms and stacks placed so that they take up room from the readers. We can give our most hearty commendation to the methods pursued in its preparation. Dr. Billings has inquired among those who have had experience as to the needs of his library; he has consulted architects; he has got an excellent committee; and before he allows for ornament or for lavish expense for decoration, he has considered what is necessary for the administration of a great library and for the convenience of the public. From that point of view this Association can give the plans its most hearty commendation.

S: S. GREEN. — We ought to bear in mind that this is a great reference library and not dwell too much upon the provisions for circulation. There should of course be ample room in the library for providing a place and means by which books may be distributed from the central building to the branches all over the city, but a great deal has been said about there not being room enough for the children. You may remember that Dr. Billings said that the room provided for the children could be enlarged by having the room for public documents and another room, moved up another story, and that the capacity of the children's room could then be doubled. But as I understand the plan, it is to have children's rooms all over the city in connection with the different branches. Of course there are very few branches now compared with the number which will be established eventually in New York, and it seems to me that the proper place to provide these rooms for children is in connection with the circulating libraries all over the city, as well as in the main building.

There are, of course, different kinds of plans for a library. There is Mr. Winsor's plan of copying the Providence railroad station in Boston, for example. It is a plan which he has always advocated and which, I understand, he still advocates. There is the one which Mr.

Dewey proposes, namely, to build around the park and have large grounds in the centre, as in the case of the Boston Public Library. There are certain advantages in those plans; but this plan presented to us by Dr. Billings is one of the finest plans for a great reference library that has ever been submitted in any country of the world. I think we should say this with the greatest stress to the people interested in the library for New York, and add that the effort to secure the convenience of the people, which has been made by this plan, is very apparent and most commendable. I rejoice in one thing that has not been mentioned here, and that is, that the gentleman who has been active in making these plans is the expert of the whole country in regard to ventilation and hygiene.

W. F. STEVENS. — There is one thought brought out by Mr. Dewey in the suggestion of a library restaurant. In New York as well as in other large cities, in the great department stores we have restaurants for the convenience of the public. In the New York West Side Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association there is a restaurant for people who use that building; and in the Y. M. C. A. Railroad Branch we have a similar restaurant. In the case of a railroad corporation, the first question in connection with a new idea is, does it pay? The second is, is it practicable? The restaurant idea has been tried in the institutions that I have named, and has also been tried in great firms; it certainly pays, and it has proved practicable.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — The approval of the general idea of Dr. Billings' plans here is almost unanimous. I do not think we should allow this to be a mere discussion, but the Association as an Association should signify by formal resolution its approval of this general plan. I move, therefore, that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to report this afternoon a suitable resolution of approval of the general plans of the New York Public Library as explained by Dr. Billings. *Voted.*

Dr. BILLINGS. — I simply wish to return thanks for the criticisms that have been made, to express my very high appreciation of the general approval of the general scheme, and to say that I think that that approval will have a very important influence upon the committee which is charged with the selection of the plans; and I hope it will have a very considerable influence on the 200 and odd architects who, I suppose, are busy now preparing sketches for the first competition.

### INVITATION FROM THE INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Secretary HAYES announced that an invitation had been received from the Institut International de Bibliographie of Brussels, requesting the participation of the American Library Association in the Second Bibliographical Conference, to be held at Brussels, Aug. 2–4, 1897, inviting the attendance of American librarians, and asking that the Association be also represented at the conference by some of its publications.

F. Richmond Fletcher had taken charge of the matter and had replied to the invitation in the following letter:

"SECRETARY INSTITUT INTERNATIONAL DE BIBLIOGRAPHIE:

"I am instructed by the American Library Association to forward to you all publications of its Publishing Section, together with such material as is directly allied though not actually published by it.

"The American Library Association desires that these volumes may be used as an example of the bibliographical work accomplished by this Association, and also desires you to accept the same as a gift to your Institut. I take pleasure, therefore, in sending by express this day such material as it has been possible to accumulate, and trust you will receive the shipment in good condition. Believe me, sir,

"Very truly yours,

"F. RICHMOND FLETCHER,

"*Asst. Secy. American Library Ass'n.*"

The president then appointed, as judge of election, W. F. STEVENS; as tellers of election, S: H. RANCK and J. N. WING.

### POLICY OF THE A. L. A. WITH REGARD TO RE-INCORPORATION UNDER THE LAWS OF THE U. S., AND WITH REGARD TO REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERSHIP.

Pres. BRETT. — The question of the policy of re-incorporating the American Library Association under the laws of the United States, with headquarters in the District of Columbia, has been mentioned in the secretary's report. It was taken up at a special meeting of the Association held in New York in February, and by

that meeting the question was referred to this general meeting. It was thought best to consider together with that question, the question which has been discussed in the library periodicals, of a representative membership. Mr. Dewey's name is down on the program to present this matter to the conference.

MELVIL DEWEY. — Last December a number of members of the Association were telegraphed for to go to Washington to appear before the Joint Committee of the Congressional Library. That committee held sessions for several days and inquired closely into what should be done in the organization of the national library in its new building. In the course of that discussion the point was made in regard to the American Library Association that, as the Association was a Massachusetts corporation it was rather awkward to ask a state corporation to make a report on the national library. The suggestion was made by a member of the committee that the Association be re-incorporated in the District of Columbia, giving to it for the first time a national character and significance, and bringing it in close relations to the national library. It was suggested that the four or five members then present in Washington should prepare a presentation of this suggestion, to be submitted to the Executive Board, which was then about to meet in Philadelphia. This was done, and a special meeting to consider the matter was called in New York, with the result with which you are familiar.

We have been at work 21 years in developing what may be called a national library system. No man can study the history of the library movement and the work of the last 20 years and not see that we shall never accomplish our purpose fully until we have a national head to this movement at Washington. One might as well expect to have the United States army without having the head of that army a department in the national capital. There is a great deal of work that could be done through headquarters at the national capital more cheaply than in any other way; it could be carried on by the general government at an expense so small as not to be burdensome, and in a way that would make it infinitely more valuable. With the government printing office and its machinery there, it would be of infinite value to the librarians of this country to have provision for bibliographic work and indexing in Washington. I need not go into details in regard to that. The practical question is briefly, Are we to have a national headquarters for this national association? We are certainly going to have them some day; it may be next year, it may not be for 10 years, or it may not be for 20 years; but until it is brought about we must look steadily in that direction.

My own suggestion as to the policy of the Association in regard to this matter is, that we should authorize the Executive Board, when they deem it expedient, to take the steps which would accomplish this re-incorporation. I do not think the present time is opportune to do anything in the matter, but when it shall seem expedient to the Executive Board, they should be authorized to secure a re-incorporation of the Association by Congress, thus giving it a distinctively national character instead of the corporate power it now holds from individual states.

Miss T. L. KELSO. — This is an important subject, and if we are going to give the Executive Board final authority to take action in this matter, now is the time to discuss it and to give the Association an opportunity of expressing fully the views it holds on the subject. There are two sides to the question, and I think that as good an argument can be made against it as for it.

J. N. LARNED. — If this is an inopportune time for taking action on the matter, it seems to me it is an inopportune time for discussing it. I move that the whole subject be postponed until a more opportune time for its consideration. *Voted.*

NOMINATIONS.

The president announced that the polls were open, and Mr. Dewey nominated for vice-president John Thomson. Mr. Thomson's name was added to the ballot by the secretary.

JOHN THOMSON, chairman of the committee, presented a verbal

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TRAVELLING LIBRARIES.

JOHN THOMSON. — The subject of travelling libraries is one of very great importance, and to meet the wants of the people we must carry the books to the homes of the people. This is the very essence of the travelling libraries system. The movement has been tried in a tentative manner in Philadelphia, and whilst

we are suprised at the success attained and the rapidity with which the people showed their appreciation of the movement, we must not forget that rapid growth is by no means always accompanied by weakness. While, of course, the travelling library system as found in New York state has had a very considerable number of years' experience in the work, the other states which have adopted it since and now have travelling libraries have had a remarkable development in that work. The work that was done in New York state showed the importance of the movement, and other states, as opportunity served, were induced to avail themselves of the example and experience which had been there set forth. In five or six states the work has been started; for instance, in Wisconsin, Illinois, and elsewhere. We had hoped to have added Pennsylvania to the list, but our state is poor; we can't even pay for our schools, and so we have not yet received an appropriation. But I am never discouraged. It is always darkest before dawn, and I am looking every day to see that we have received, as I hope we may, some appropriation, however small, to start the work in Pennsylvania.

One great point to be solved in connection with travelling libraries is as to the best method that can be adopted to make them a concomitant part of every large free public library. The larger the town or the city in which the public library is established, the greater is the need of the members of the community for the library. Every large town and every large city has various outside districts and small places which cannot be reached by the most carefully worked out system of a central library with however large a number of branches. Take, for instance, Philadelphia, which is a remarkably widely scattered city. I could name many places which could not be reached by the work done by libraries in the centre of the city or by the work of the branches. Therefore it is of the greatest moment that a travelling library movement should be adopted not only in out-of-the-way parts of the state, but also in the out-of-the-way parts of cities and towns. We have in Philadelphia the very best argument that could be produced, and one which should have good effect upon the appropriation committee, and that is, we are able to say we are not asking for an appropriation for an experiment, but have already taken the matter in hand and have achieved something. A certain number of travelling libraries have already been established within the limits of the city of Philadelphia and are carried on from the institution that I have the honor to work in. I think, if I give you an account of those figures, I shall probably do the most and the best that can be done to stimulate every librarian in every large town and city to try to encourage the movement, which is one of the largest hearted and best movements in library work.

We first found, through that active institution in our city known as the Civic Club, that there were many elderly people and persons in the city, who were not able for some reason or other to avail themselves of the free libraries, and the club was proposing to start an independent travelling library movement. I suggested that it would be better to concentrate the work, and it was entrusted to us. First, it was ascertained that there were many boys engaged at the telegraph stations who, by reason of their business, have very long hours, and who are not very apt to do much walking in order to obtain books; but that they had an abundance of time during their business hours which could be better occupied in reading good books than in playing "tag" or in getting fined for disobedience. We therefore determined upon taking a small collection of books, called a travelling library, putting it in a box, and giving the boys an opportunity of reading good matter and thus keeping themselves out of mischief. We have supplied 19 of the Western Union Telegraph stations with books in this way. First we supplied them with 10 books, and we are now increasing the number to 25 books at each station. The books are changed every two or three months as the boys are ready for a new supply. We have supplied two of the American District Telegraph stations in the same way, and they have regularly been the recipients of 35 books apiece in a very short time. But we have to cut our coat according to our cloth, and the supply of books is a very important consideration.

There is another class of men in the city who are far less able to avail themselves of the privileges of the free library or of any subscription library, and those are the men engaged in the fire-engine stations. They have no hours at all, because they must be there at call at a moment's notice to go to their work. They

are not men who can go to libraries and make selections of books, and we thought they would be a very good class of persons on whom to try the effect of reading. We have supplied 38 fire stations with books. Thirty-seven of those stations we have supplied with libraries of 25 books each. The books are well read. We make as reasonable a selection as possible, and try to give them good matter.

Then come the police stations, and we have been asked by the Director of Public Safety, who is extremely interested in the matter, to make this a part of our work. He has personally subscribed to the movement, and has requested the lieutenants at the stations to take the greatest care they can of the books entrusted to them. While we hope to have about 30 of these libraries out before the end of the fall, we have only been able up to this time to supply three stations, partly for want of time and partly for want of books. Later, we received a batch of applications from outside districts in the suburbs.

Then came another class of men, the hard-working, industrious men in the large machine-shops. To one of these shops 100 books were sent as a start. At the request of the owner of the works, the secretary of the institution, acting as the custodian of the books, distributed them. We found that these men reside chiefly (probably for financial reasons) at Camden and other points far distant from their work. They have to be at their work at seven o'clock in the morning and leave it at five or six in the afternoon, and when they get home, have had their wash and their supper, they are not likely to get on a wheel and go down to the library to get a book. We have found that this movement as started with them promises to be of the greatest importance.

This is only an object lesson within the limits of the city, and is mainly used as a lesson to our legislators in order to induce them to appropriate some money, so that we may carry on the movement with success.

I had a letter about two weeks ago from a place about 20 miles out of the city, saying: "We must, if possible, get a travelling library." I said that we could spend no money outside of the city limits. The people then set to work to see what they could do, and afterwards I received word from them saying: "We have got a thousand dollars to start with, but for pity's sake send the books as quickly as possible." You may imagine how disappointed I was to be unable to forward such a noble movement. I cannot, of course, work outside of the city limits till I get a state appropriation. We have also received written agreements from three places, one in Clearfield county, saying if we would start the movement they would put up a little building and pay the salary of some one to take charge of the library movement.

The lesson to be learned from all this is that the travelling library has an end to accomplish. The travelling library is a means to an end. It is a means of teaching these outside places the value and necessity of a library. And where the travelling library gets a good foothold, there before long we shall find a large free public library.

F. A. HUTCHINS being absent, his paper on

LOCAL SUPERVISION OF TRAVELLING LIBRARIES

was read by title and ordered printed.

(*See p.* 17.)

Announcement was made by the president that instead of holding an evening session, as originally planned, it had been decided to consider at the afternoon session all the business given in the program to the afternoon and evening sessions. A recess was taken at 12.05.

## *SEVENTH SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 24.)

The meeting was called to order at 2.25 p.m. by President BRETT.

C. W. ANDREWS, in the absence of C: H. GOULD, chairman, read the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN DOCUMENTS.

*To the President and Council of the American Library Association.*

GENTLEMEN: The Committee on Foreign Documents begs leave to make the following report on Canadian public documents, supplementing its reports of last year.

ONTARIO. — The chief documents are:

Public accounts.
Department of Agriculture.
Asylums.
Department of crown lands.

Minister of Education.
Public health.
Mines.
Sessional papers.
Statutes.

A complete list of these documents is published with the sessional papers for each year.

NEWFOUNDLAND. — The chief documents are:

Acts of the Legislature.
Consolidated statutes.
Journal of the House of Assembly.
Fishery report.
Education reports.
Geological report.

The Queen's Printer at Ottawa and the Provincial Secretary of the several provincial governments should be applied to if documents are desired. The committee regrets that no report from the province of Manitoba is yet to hand.

The committee further reports that they have undertaken to prepare a list of the serial publications of the French government, and they have at present 133 titles divided among the departments and bureaus as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| General | 3 |
| Affaires étrangères | 1 |
| Agriculture | 7 |
| Assemblée Nationale | 6 |
| Colonies | 4 |
| Commerce | 18 |
| Finances | 8 |
| Guerre | 14 |
| Instruction publique | 28 |
| Intérieur | 9 |
| Justice | 3 |
| Bureau des Longitudes | 4 |
| Marine | 8 |
| Bureau Météorologique | 2 |
| Salut publique | 1 |
| Travaux publiques | 17 |
| Total | 133 |

The difficulties met with in this work were considerable. There is, so far as is known to the committee, no such list published in any available form. The "Almanach National," which might be expected to furnish the titles, does not give them, although clues to several were found there. The list issued by the Imprimerie Nationale cannot pretend to be complete even for what is printed there, and of course does not give what is printed elsewhere. The largest number was obtained by careful examination of the "Bibliographie Française," but this was very considerably supplemented from several other sources.

The list is at present in card form and needs revision and completion, which will be made if possible by one of the members of the committee while in Paris this summer.

The committee, therefore, begs leave to make this report as a report of progress on the subject.

Respectfully submitted,
C. H. GOULD, *Chairman.*
By C. W. ANDREWS.

W: E. FOSTER presented the

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

The undersigned have examined the accounts from September 1, 1896 to June 1, 1897, of Mr. George W. Cole and Mr. Charles K. Bolton, treasurers of the American Library Association, and find them correctly kept, with vouchers for all payments. The balance reported as on hand ($1102.20) agrees with the pass-books of the New England Trust Co. and the Brookline National Bank.

*Auditing Committee.*
JAMES L. WHITNEY, *Chairman of the Finance Committee.*
WILLIAM E. FOSTER, *Member of the Finance Committee.*
HENRY J. CARR, *Member of Auditing Committee.*
E. H. ANDERSON, *Member of Auditing Committee.*

JUNE 24, 1897.

The report was received and ordered recorded.

APPROPRIATION FROM ENDOWMENT FUND TO PUBLISHING SECTION.

W: E. FOSTER. — The Council have the following communication to present:

The Council having considered the question of transfer of funds from the Endowment Fund to the Publishing Section, as referred to in the printed report of the latter, voted unanimously "that the Trustees of the Endowment Fund be directed to apply such portion of the interest of the Endowment Fund as may be necessary for that purpose, to the extinguishment of the notes of the Publishing Section now held."

This proposition has been submitted to Mr. Soule, the only member of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund present at this meeting, and has his approval.

WILLIAM E. FOSTER,
*Secretary of the A. L. A. Council.*

ERNST LEMCKE read his paper on

THE LIBRARIAN AND THE IMPORTER.

(*See p.* 12.)

J. N. WING. — If all librarians, when sending a list to a bookseller, will use ink that will copy, they will save the bookseller a great deal of labor and trouble. Do not use stylographic ink; it will not copy. As to the question of books returned. A great many librarians forget how the return of books affects the bookseller, and some of them do not consider how small the profits are. They order perhaps forty or fifty dollars' worth of books. The profit on that list of books at library rates is about three or four dollars at the outside. If they return a five-dollar book the whole profit is lost.

G: A. MACBETH presented an announcement from

THE TRUSTEES' SECTION.

At a prolonged session of the Trustees' Section we have thought best to call a meeting of trustees in New York in the winter. Let us try the plan of flocking by ourselves without librarians. Mr. T. Guilford Smith, of Buffalo, has been appointed chairman of the Section, and we have mapped out a program of topics for discussion at this trustees' meeting. If the librarians can lend their aid in announcing this meeting to their trustees, and asking these to aid in having as large a meeting of trustees as possible, they will help us very much, and it is altogether likely that that meeting will determine much as to future events.

In the absence of Mr. DANA, chairman, Miss M. E. AHERN made the following verbal

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION WITH LIBRARY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Miss M. E. AHERN.—The report of this committee can all be embodied in one word, and that is progress. The committee of the A. L. A. which was to work with the officers of the Library Department of the N. E. A., were a little late in being appointed, so that work was not begun until a short time ago. A circular letter was sent out to a number of librarians and to every member of the committee, asking for suggestions to be made regarding the line of work to be taken up at the Milwaukee meeting of the N. E. A.; but up to to-day I have not received any suggestions as to what either the librarians or the teachers would like taken up. However, the executive board of the Library Department have prepared a plan and made arrangements for the meeting of the Department in July. I can say, therefore, that those who attend the meeting will have a very interesting time, and that a large part of the program will probably be devoted to the work almost entirely from the standpoint of the teacher. Since I have come here some librarians have said to me they thought this was a mistake. It is possibly so, but in the judgment of those who had the matter in charge it seemed the best course to pursue at that time, and I can only say that if librarians will make an effort to attend that meeting, and give of the knowledge which they have accumulated in regard to the matter, it may be that it will modify the opinion of the committee who have the program in charge.

The report was received and ordered recorded.

C: R. DUDLEY, chairman, presented the report of the

COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY EDITIONS OF POPULAR BOOKS.

In some respects it was unfortunate that the members of the Committee on Library Editions of Popular Books were so widely scattered that it was impossible for them to hold meetings, and particularly unfortunate that no member of the committee was in the city of New York.

From correspondence and such interviews with publishers, as have been possible, your committee begs leave to report that they believe the scheme as briefly considered at the Lake Placid and Cleveland meetings is feasible. It is simply a business proposition. Publishers will make any kind of a book the librarians ask for, provided they will agree to buy it. It is only necessary for the members of this Association to say that they want the popular novels printed on a tough rag paper, sewed on tapes and covered in a substantial manner, and that they will buy only such editions when they are made.

It is believed that such an edition can be made

for about 25 per cent. more than is charged for the ordinary editions, and that it will stand at least three times as much wear.

This committee would suggest that a new committee be named, with a chairman, living in New York City, with the other members in Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago, or other publishing centres.

We further suggest that members of the Association send to the committee during the ensuing year a list of such popular books as they cannot find in good editions, so that the committee may be able to prepare a list of such books for submission to publishers.

Dr. B. C. STEINER. — The great difficulty in reference to books is not so much, it seems to me, with regard to the books published this year, but as to the books which have been published in previous years, and which the original publishers have not kept in stock, but which are still asked for by the public. In many such cases the original publisher has sold the worn-out plates to some corporation or firm which issues the book in very poor paper and binding, and it seems to me it would be a very advantageous thing for each librarian to inform the committee of such books. I can make quite a list from my own experience. I replace 5000 or 6000 volumes a year, and there are some authors extremely difficult to get. The publishers say it does not pay them to keep publishing the older novels, because there is no special demand for them. But even if a popular author is not in demand by people who are buying books for private libraries, there ought to be an edition in print, and there would be if publishers knew librarians wanted it, and if librarians were willing to buy a sufficient number to make it worth while to publish an edition, and it seems to me that is one of the things we can accomplish by having librarians send a list to this committee in the ensuing year. Another thing which would be useful would be for any librarian who wishes to do so, to make any suggestions as to the quality of paper, type, size of book and kind of binding that ought to be provided. This committee has really done very little more than report progress, but it seems to me it has reported progress in such a way as to expect that something practical will be done during the coming year. If every one bears the matter in mind and is anxious to help, next year the committee will be able to make a decided report — a report which can be used in a definite way with publishers.

The report was received and ordered recorded.

### APPROPRIATION FOR PUBLISHING SECTION.

W: I. FLETCHER. — It should be borne in mind by the Association that as the Publishing Section under its new constitution is merely a committee of the Association, the Association is entirely at liberty to direct in any way the operations of the Section. As we have a Council under whose direction such matters can be arranged for a vote by the Association, it is perhaps the better way, unless some one has some special point to bring up to be acted on, that the Section go on with its work under the direction of the Council.

W. H. AUSTIN. —I move that the Association appropriate $500 out of its general fund for the use of the Publishing Section, subject to the approval of the Council. *Voted.*

### "A. L. A. CATALOG" SUPPLEMENT.

J. N. LARNED. — The chairman of the committee who had the publication of the supplement to the "A. L. A. catalog" in charge has been in correspondence with publishers and with the government, and it seems to be a matter of doubt whether the government can undertake that publication or not. I understand in case it is decided by the Bureau of Education that it cannot do the work the Publishing Section is probably prepared to undertake it, and, therefore, I move that the Association express to the Publishing Section its approval of the publication of the supplement to the "A. L. A. catalog," coming down to the end of the present month from the close of the original "A. L. A. catalog," provided the work cannot be done by the Bureau of Education within a reasonable time.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — The lists published, as I understand it, have been preliminary lists — lists that are largely tentative. The Association has a number of times criticised those lists as not containing the names of various books that have been suggested as belonging in them, and suggestions have been made in regard to others that do not belong there, and I think that the lists are decidedly not in any condition for the Publishing Section or any one else to take hold of. I think the proper action would be to have those lists revised, brought down to

a given date, and again submitted to either the committee, the Executive Board, or the Association itself.

W: I. FLETCHER. — If those lists are not in proper shape we have very little hope of getting them so. They have been in the hands of an efficient committee, and that committee, out of their wish to get all the help possible, has referred the lists to the Association, and has exercised its best judgment in carrying out the suggestions received.

J. N. LARNED. — My suggestion had reference to the list as a tentative list presented here for the criticism of the Association. That list is to be revised by the committee, in the same way as the list of last year was examined and criticised at Cleveland. My motion had reference to the lists as they will be ready finally.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — I do not think the Association has had a chance to give fair criticism of that list. I do not think the list was in the hands of the members of the committee themselves until three or four days before this meeting. When the list is made as a tentative list and presented to the Association for its criticism, I think an opportunity for intelligent criticism should be given the Association.

Mr. LARNED's motion was adopted.

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

MELVIL DEWEY. — Personally I would favor going to Atlanta at some future time. If we are going to Atlanta I should favor going in May rather than in July or August, or I would suggest meeting there in October. But I had supposed that the invitation to go to Atlanta was coming a year or two later. I will repeat my motion of this morning, That the matter of place of next meeting be left with the Executive Board with power to select, with the preference for Chautauqua Lake early in July.

Miss M. E. HAZELTINE. — Lake Chautauqua extends a greeting to the American Library Association; a cordial greeting and a cordial invitation to meet on its shores in 1898. We offer you the pleasures of a summer resort; a beautiful lake surrounded by hills 1200 feet above the Atlantic and 700 feet above Lake Erie. It is cool and delightful, with pleasant drives and boating and fishing and bathing. We do not ask you to have your meeting right in Jamestown, a small city at the foot of the lake, nor do we ask you to go to the great Chautauqua at the head of the lake; but to come to some of the resorts between these two places — Lakewood, perhaps, for there are two large summer hotels there. The place is easy of access. It is half way between New York and Chicago on the Erie Railroad, and is easily reached from those two cities. I talked with some of the railroad men before I left, and they promised me a fare and a third, and hoped to be able to make it a one-fare rate. I have seen the hotel men at Lakewood, and they say you can own the whole lake if you come early in July or in September; the summer boarders will not come until July, and will be gone by September.

Lakewood extends a cordial greeting and will be glad to receive you. The Library Board of Jamestown extends a cordial invitation to you, and all the people around are as anxious to receive you as I am and as the Library Board are. We hope that you will come.

The invitation to Jamestown presented by Miss Hazeltine was supported by H: L. ELMENDORF and Col. WESTON FLINT.

Dr. J. K. HOSMER. — In view of the presentation of these claims on us, and the invitation given to visit Chautauqua, I waive, for the present, the project of having the Association come to Minneapolis to hold its next meeting.

H: L. ELMENDORF. — I move as a substitute to Mr. Dewey's motion, that the conference meet next year in Chautauqua.

A vote was taken and division called; a rising vote was then had, and the substitute motion was carried by 73 to 53.

RESOLUTION ON ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Dr. B. C. STEINER.—This morning when we came to the election of officers it seemed that we had no definite list by which we could be sure that the voting would be properly carried on. This seems too lax a method of transacting business. Of course it has produced no inconvenience yet, and may not for some time to come, but it cannot go on in such a careless way without leading us into difficulty. I wish to propose the following :

"*Resolved*, That the treasurer of the Association prepare and furnish to the secretary yearly, at the beginning of the annual conference, a list of the members entitled to vote, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution."

The constitution is very clear. A member has a right to vote, and if the treasurer, who

is the person able to do so, furnishes such a list to the secretary, there will be no trouble in having that list prepared so as to avoid any possible difficulty. *Voted.*

In the absence of A. H. HOPKINS, chairman, the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY SCHOOLS

was read by title and ordered printed.

(*See p.* 87.)

Papers on

METHODS OF CHILDREN'S LIBRARY WORK AS DETERMINED BY THE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN

were read by the Rev. E. M. FAIRCHILD (*see p.* 19.) and Miss EMMA L. ADAMS (*see p.* 28.).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The tellers of the election reported the result of the balloting as follows:

*President:* Justin Winsor, 108; scattering, 60.

*Vice-presidents:* Rutherford P. Hayes, 72; Hannah P. James. 67; F: M. Crunden, 65 (seven others received votes varying from 32 to 60).

*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, 132; scattering, 35.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, 131; scattering, 33.

*Recorder:* Helen E. Haines, 65 (two others received respectively 46 and 51).

*Trustee of Endowment Fund:* George W. Williams, 72 (two others received respectively 21 and 67).

*A. L. A. Council:* W: I. Fletcher, 125; W: E. Foster, 115; R. R. Bowker, 105; C: A. Cutter, 102 (four others received respectively 68, 39, 37, and 34).

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON N. Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY.

President BRETT announced the committee on resolutions in regard to the New York Public Library building as follows: H: L. Elmendorf, J. N. Larned, C: C. Soule.

The meeting was adjourned at 5.07 until the next morning.

## *EIGHTH SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 25.)

The eighth session, held simultaneously with the separate meeting of the College Section, continued the subject of ELEMENTARY LIBRARY WORK. The meeting was called to order in the library of Drexel Institute, at 9.20 a.m., by Miss Linda A. Eastman, chairman.

Miss VIRGINIA DODGE read a paper on

LIBRARIANS' AIDS.

(*See p.* 67.)

Miss L. E. STEARNS. — Among the many good points of the paper, I note one that is not generally known; that is, with reference to the obtaining of a plethora of documents and historical matter from historical societies, without paying the high prices that are often asked by second-hand dealers. Our experience in Milwaukee has been that we can join the State Historical Society by paying a membership fee of $2, and with that membership go invaluable books which would in any other way be $5 or $6 a volume. This is an important point for the small library.

Miss MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE followed with a talk on

ADVERTISING A LIBRARY.

(*See p.* 74.)

Miss EASTMAN. — We have to advertise our library on a wholesale scale, as is true in many of the larger libraries, and it may be interesting and possibly helpful to some of you to know how we get space in papers that are not willing to give it to us. This difficulty in getting space applies, I think, to a much greater extent in a large city than in a small town. We have for years had the new books of the week advertised regularly in the two most important papers of the city; the smaller and more popular penny papers refused to give space for the lists of new books, and the attitude of all the papers was that they would pick up items about the library occasionally, which were very apt to be items that we didn't want published, while anything that we particularly wished to have made public was overlooked. We began by suiting ourselves to the circumstances, and, as a rule, found we could have about an inch of space. We instituted a sort of bargain-counter, and from week to week we studied to keep something continually going. As Miss Hazeltine says, the ball must be kept rolling all the time. We get the brightest little announcements we can. Sometimes the reporters will write them; more often we have to write them ourselves, and the assistants take turns in so doing. One may have a special inspiration on a special week, and some of the very brightest things we have had have come from some of

the younger and newer assistants. We sent to all of the papers, weeklies and dailies, a letter asking if they would insert short notices such as the enclosed, and on what day they would prefer to have them; they nearly all replied that they would be glad to take them. We made a card catalog, as it were, of the addresses of the papers, the days on which they go to press, etc., and we plan a week or so ahead the subject we are going to advertise, and get our announcements ready. In order that there shall not be a sameness in the items — for a paper objects to publishing just what every other paper has published — sometimes different members of the staff write to different papers the announcement of the books of the week.

In the middle of the winter, when people were thinking of winter resorts, we advertised a collection of books suited to them. The first one last fall was on the subject of the horse, at the time when the horse fair was being held. We had a list on Scotland at the time "Ian Maclaren" was in the city, and our "Irish week" brought a great many people who had not been in the library, they said, for years, and some of whom never had been there. We advertised "Art" the week that we began the circulation of pictures, and the subject proved so successful that we carried it on the second week with an exhibit of book-cover designs, which were shown for a week, and then sent to the schools in sets for design work in drawing. Children's books made a vacation subject, when we sent nvitations to the schools, besides advertising through the papers. Books on nature have been advertised in different ways during several weeks of this spring, and each week the advertising has brought a great many people who are anxious for the books. One week we advertised a "little book" show, picking out all the little books that were easy to carry in one's pocket, and that brought bicyclers; we are publishing also a bicycle reading list which we will post in every bicycle store in town, as well as in the Y. M. C. A. reading-rooms. The subjects of "historical romance" and "romantic history" brought many people.

We have also a daily exhibit of special books, in the fiction alcove, where we bring from all of the other alcoves a miscellaneous collection of bright books on every subject, changed from day to day; in this alcove, at the point nearest the door, where the people are most apt to go during the noon rush, we have a rack filled with these "books for busy people." In the hall is a bulletin-board containing a list of the important events of the day, taken from the daily papers, with the announcement that material on these subjects will be found in the reference and reading rooms. In assisting others to advertise, we have had some co-operation with the city art schools; they have been having prize contests, and have been glad to lend us the prize pictures. We have no room in which to show any large collection, but we had a screen made and put in one of the alcoves, and on it we put these pictures. Bret Harte's "Cressy" and two or three of Miss Wilkins' stories have been illustrated by the art class, and of course showing those illustrations made a demand for the books.

These special exhibits have brought not only an individual, but a wholesale use of the books, by suggesting to more than one person the idea that they could get for class work, club work, etc., collections of books such as they saw. It was the means, for instance, of starting what we were most anxious for — co-operation in a very close way with the Normal School. It happened that they were taking up geography by countries in the Normal School just at the time when we began our "country" exhibits. The Normal School principal came and asked if she could have pictures of Scotland. We had no pictures of Scotland, aside from the illustrations in books, but suggested immediately that we would be glad to furnish the books and would also send some of the better illustrated works for a short time from the reference-room. We sent some 75 books. The result was that the school had books on one subject after another, and this is leading rapidly to a systematic study of juvenile literature in the Normal School; we accomplished this by simply taking it for granted that they wanted the best children's books on every subject they were to teach, and it has led to a serious study of juvenile books.

Last week this was the announcement in one of the papers:

"PLANS FOR THE SUMMER. HAVE YOU MADE THEM?

"See the books on Summer Resorts, Summer Outings, Camping and Fishing, and, above all, the books suggesting ways for summer comfort and pleasure at home.

"These books will be the special feature at the Public Library during the week beginning June 14, and also at the West Side, Woodland, Miles Park, and South Side branches."

On one of our bulletin-boards we had the following:

> "When all thy soul with city dust is dry,
> Seek some green spot where a brook tinkles by;
> But, if thy lot denies both nook and brook,
> Turn to green thoughts in a fresh leafy book."

I think Mr. Wright can give us suggestions regarding what he has done in advertising the St. Joseph Public Library.

P. B. Wright. — As a beginner in the work, I did not expect to be asked to say anything at this session, but anticipated learning much through listening. In this latter respect I have not been disappointed. However, as to advertising, a number of plans are followed in advertising the St. Joseph Library. We rely principally upon a large blackboard (4 x 8 feet) to keep up the interest of casual visitors. Upon this is written or posted lists of new books, pictures, and announcements of all kinds. In writing these so-called "ads," colored chalks are used, which gives life to the board. The daily newspapers come first in bringing in new patrons to the library. The two morning newspapers publish such library notes as we can furnish, together with lists of new books. These notes and book lists are always published in the Sunday morning editions, as more attention is paid to them by the public than if published in one of the week-day issues. Copy is furnished not later than the middle of the week, giving the printers ample time to get it set up and corrected. It also avoids the Saturday night rush, common in all printing offices. Through a recent arrangement with the business offices, the metal slugs for the book lists (linotype machines being used) are supplied to the library at the cost of the metal, about five or six cents a pound. These slugs, or lines of type, are preserved, and when 250 or 300 titles have accumulated, a bulletin is published, averaging 10 a year. Credit is given on the bulletin for the newspaper furnishing the type therein. Other uses found for the type or metal thus obtained is in getting up supplements and in publishing select or special lists, books of the year, etc. These slugs of course finally wear out, and are then traded in as metal for new type lists, pound for pound. The expense is therefore the purchase in the first instance. We expect the original purchase of 500 or 600 pounds of metal to run the library for years through this system of interchanging.

Another thing that has increased the use of the library is the telephone. Every encouragement is given to use the telephone for legitimate library purposes. Business men who are too busy to come to us are encouraged to ask over the 'phone such questions as a library is supposed to be able to answer. In furnishing such answers, the authority quoted is always given. The library was recently of value to one of the large jobbing houses in furnishing information speedily as to how goods had to be packed for shipment to an Alaska mining camp, the means of transportation as found in a government publication furnishing the clue. People are notified (by 'phone) when books for which cards have been left or requests made have come in, answers are given as to whether certain books are on the shelves and may be obtained — in fact, everything is done to make the library popular that a private concern would do to increase its business, in so far as our means will allow.

Anything that will attract the attention of people and encourage them to use the library is legitimate advertising. These things are watched for and tried, and if it is found that the results pay they are continued. No opportunity is lost by the staff to make friends among all classes. People who come to the library are cheerfully helped in all ways possible, so that, in addition to the several ways of advertising mentioned briefly, we can say, with the manufacturer of a well-known infant's food, "we are advertised by our loving friends" — a most delightful way of being advertised. These are some of the means which were used in the St. Joseph Public Library to show a home use of over 120,000 volumes for the year ending April 30, with but 10,500 volumes in the circulating department.

### THE MAXSON BOOK-MARK.

Dr. J. K. Hosmer. — I would like to hear something about the library guild of children recently established in Cleveland. I would also inquire whether you use the Maxson book-mark, published in the April *Library Journal*. It is intended especially for children, but it seems to me it would answer excellently for grown peo-

ple, and would advertise the fact that they are expected to take good care of the library books. I expect to have 5000 or 10,000 copies of that book-mark printed and put in the books for adults as well as for children, for the very fact that it is adapted to children will give it a rather humorous turn when a grown-up person comes to read it that will help to make it effective.

Miss EASTMAN. — We use the Maxson book-mark, and it was, in a measure, this book-mark which suggested to us the Library League; that is, the League worked out from the effect that we observed the book-mark produced. We had 5000 or 10,000 copies of the book-mark printed as soon as we saw it and had obtained permission to use it. Those were exhausted before long, and then we had 50,000 more printed. We expect to keep them in use, as the children like them greatly. We sent them to the schools with the books, and at first they were read as a school exercise, which the children enjoyed very much.

Dr. J. K. HOSMER. — Do you use them at all for grown-up people?

THE CLEVELAND CHILDREN'S LIBRARY LEAGUE.

Miss EASTMAN. — We have not so far, but we see the results, to some extent, reacting on the parents.

It was this book-mark largely which led to the idea of the Children's Library League, though the Children's Street-cleaning League of New York had also a good deal to do with it. It was begun at the time of the spring vacation. We were just putting into circulation over 1000 new juvenile books, and we had added a great many other juvenile books very recently, and it seemed as though it was the most opportune time to impress the need of good care of the books on the children. We posted a bulletin in the juvenile alcove, asking the children to join the Library League, speaking of what New York children were doing toward keeping the streets clean, asking if Cleveland children couldn't do as much for clean books as New York children were doing for clean streets, and referring them to the assistant in the alcove. As soon as possible we printed a little certificate, which was given to the children. We ruled a blank-book and headed it THE HONOR ROLL OF THE LIBRARY LEAGUE, and the children, feeling that they were doing a very great thing in joining the League, signed their names, with address and card number, in the book, and then we gave them these certificates. We started without waiting for the certificates, telling the first children who joined that their certificates would be ready for them the next time they came in. It was the 29th of March when the League was started, and when I left Cleveland in the latter part of June the membership was over 3500, and we expect a great accession immediately at the close of school, because of announcements that we sent to the schools, and because of the Library League letter we issued. The little certificate reads on one side:

LIBRARY LEAGUE HONOR CARD.

"This certifies that....., living at....., has signed the agreement of the Library League, in the Honor Roll Book of the League, and hereby becomes a member in good standing.

"A copy of the League agreement is given on the opposite side.

"Card no....."

The League agreement, given on the opposite side, is as follows:

HONOR ROLL
OF
THE LIBRARY LEAGUE.

"We, the undersigned, members of THE LIBRARY LEAGUE, agree to do all in our power to assist the Librarian in keeping the books in good condition.

"We promise to remember that good books contain the living thoughts of good and great men and women, and are therefore entitled to respect.

"We will not handle any library book roughly or carelessly, will not mark it, turn down leaves, nor put anything into it thicker than a slip of paper.

"We will also do all in our power to interest other boys and girls in the right care of books, and will report all which we find in bad condition."

It would seem as though that were a very slim thread by which to hold the association together, but we do not mean that it shall be so. We had planned to call a meeting of the League before the schools closed, to get hold of the children for the summer, but it proved impossible. So we have planned, and have the permission of the board, to hold a meeting in October, which will be held in the largest auditorium in the town. The stage will be filled, we hope, with influential people with philanthropic tendencies, whom we wish to interest in

the library. We have thus a double cause to work for. There will be a program designed especially to interest the children in better reading.

Finding that we were not able to call this meeting before the schools closed, we saw the importance of gaining a strong enough hold on the children to keep up their interest and make them feel that they really were doing something worth while. We therefore issued this little letter to them :

"BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE LIBRARY LEAGUE: We wish to thank you for the help you are giving the library in reporting marked or soiled books, and in keeping the new books clean.

"The League now numbers over 3000. And it is only two months old. Think what we shall do if we go on growing at that rate — what a power we shall be for a good cause. We expect, in October, to call a grand mass meeting of the League at Music Hall, and we want, by that time, to have members enough to fill it. We can do this with your help in getting new members.

"You will be glad to know that some other cities have already thought our League worth copying, and are beginning to start Leagues of their own modelled after it.

"As it is not possible to call the League meeting before school closes, this letter is written to tell of the work planned for the League for this summer, and to ask you to help in doing your share of it. This work will be as follows:

"*First.* The work for clean books. Of course all League members will keep the agreement which they signed, and a copy of which is printed on the back of your League certificate. It is well to read this agreement over very often, or better still, learn it by heart, so that you can repeat it to your playmates in interesting them in the League. Your work is going to show most in the care of the newer books, which have not become badly soiled. Make up your minds that every book which you have from the library will go back to it in as good or better condition than you found it; if there is a mark or soiled spot in it which you can take out carefully with an eraser, do so, and if leaves or cover are loose, report it at the desk where you return the book. It is always well to cover your book with paper as soon as you get it home; you will find at the Library some paper covers folded to show you how to go to work to cover your books.

"In keeping books from being soiled, the principal thing to remember is that they must never be touched excepting with very clean hands.

'*Secona.* Get just as many new members for the League as you can. Do your brothers and sisters, schoolmates and playmates all belong to the League? If not, tell them about it, and ask them to join. We want 10,000 children in the League, and we shall have them if you will bring in your young friends.

"*Third.* Make an important part of your summer's work the inviting children who do not use the Library to do so. A great many boys and girls have to spend their vacations in the city, and often do not know what to do with themselves all day long. Tell them of all the pleasure they can get from the stories, the books of adventure, the histories, and the books telling how to do and make things which will add to their vacation good times; tell them of the best books you have read, and explain to them how they can get library cards and draw books themselves.

"*Fourth.* Hunt up a good motto for the League to adopt.

"*Fifth.* Keep a record of the number of books you report, the number of children you interest in the library who have not been using it, and the number of new members you get for the League, so as to be able to report what you have done.

"*Sixth.* All members of the League are invited to make out a list of six or more of the best books they have read. These lists are to be neatly written, giving your name and age, and are to be handed in at the Library on or before July 15th. The best of these lists will then be posted in the Library to help other boys and girls in choosing books which they will be sure to enjoy.

"W. H. BRETT,
"*Librarian.*"

The lists of books are beginning to come in and some of them are very interesting. The mottoes are beginning to come in also. We are planning to have a badge for the League, which will consist of a little open book with "Cleveland Library League" on it; one firm has offered to furnish silver pins for five cents each. We do not expect to be able to furnish these to the children free of cost, but our object is to get them as low as we can, so that each child can afford to buy his own badge. Another firm has offered to furnish a very pretty white metal badge, which I think will do very well indeed, for two and a half cents apiece. These badges will of course please the children, and will give us a means of knowing, as the children come in, who are and who are not members of the League; of course we can't know them all.

This is simply the beginning of the possibilities that we see in this Library League. The branches are working in this and several of the schools ; the 180 members of the Central High School senior graduating class joined the League in a body, and presented the Central High School Library, which is run as a branch

of our library, with a large card, ornamentally printed by one of the members of the class, giving the League agreement with a resolution by the class telling how much they appreciate what the library has been to them, and their wish to show this appreciation by joining the League. The assistant in charge of the High School Library declares that next year she will have every single member of the Central High School belong to the League, and there are over 1700 pupils; you can see the dignity that adds to the Children's League. The card has been framed for the purpose of being kept in the Central High School Library, but during vacation we shall have it in the juvenile alcove of the main library.

The League is certainly going to accomplish much that will be worth while in training the children, and, indirectly through them, in reaching out to others. I think it was President Eliot of Harvard who said, "If you want to work any reform, begin with the children." We are going to begin with them in training people to care properly for books, which are public property. We feel that that is only a small part of the work, and that there are infinite possibilities in it in giving us a hold on the children which will enable us in many indirect ways to direct and guide their reading. We hope to have each branch work up a special division of the League, and then perhaps sub-divide each division into reading clubs, and get the people of the neighborhood to help us in programs, etc., for the children. We do not know what it is all going to lead to, but we do know that there are very great possibilities, and there is already before us a great deal more than we can find time to go ahead with.

Miss T. L. Kelso. — The possibilities of children's leagues is the most important subject that has ever been brought before us. We have skated around this subject in the *Journal* and in meetings for 10 years past; I have given a great deal of thought to it myself, and have been in constant consultation with librarians and professors who are interested in it; but I believe that to-day Miss Eastman has given to us the first glimmer of light that will lead to practical results. The fad for children's rooms I have been always opposed to, on the score that nine-tenths of that work was a superficial adaptation of the kindergarten method without the first knowledge of its real principles by the persons putting it in execution; but it was an effort to accomplish what Miss Eastman has now presented a plan to do in a proper and logical way. We have all talked about reaching the children and about the influence of the sympathetic person at the delivery-desk, and much of this talk is rubbish, because we know that when one is at a busy desk she does not get much chance to be sympathetic; we have attacked the teachers until we have driven them into rebellion, because we have forced them to come to meetings when they were tired and had more than they could attend to in their own professional line, and we have dictated to them about children's reading; but I think that Miss Eastman has now touched the right chord. I know something of Col. Waring's work in New York, and have again and again attended the meetings of the Street-cleaning League on the East Side; they are the most interesting meetings I ever attended in my life, and they show what can be done with children. As to the books selected for children, look at our ordinary juvenile lists; they are convulsing; they are absurd. Miss Hewins has done the sensible thing in trying to view this book question from the children's point of view. It would be a fatal thing in this league work to merely stop at the taking care of books; that is just a beginning. I hope that Miss Eastman will from time to time in the *Journal* state what modifications and extensions have been made in her plans, because there cannot be a library too small to use them, though many people have not, perhaps, the opportunities that the Cleveland Public Library has; its staff must be a dynamo consisting of many coils. We are all indebted to Miss Eastman for having presented this plan to us, and for having thought of it.

Miss Elizabeth P. Andrews read a paper on

BOOK SELECTION.

(*See p.* 70.)

Miss Linda A. Eastman made a short address on

AIMS AND PERSONAL ATTITUDE IN LIBRARY WORK.

(*See p.* 80.)

Pres. Brett. — The Library League was started in the Cleveland library at the suggestion of two of the assistants — Miss Eastman, the

assistant librarian, who has just given an account of it, and Miss Pierce, who has charge of the issue of books. It was suggested by both of them, independently of each other, and was based on the work done in New York in keeping clean streets. When my attention was called to it, it struck me as the best thing that had been thought of, and I heartily approved of it, and they have put it into operation with the success of which you have heard. This is just one of those instances, of which we have a great many, in which intelligent and enthusiastic and devoted women are doing great things which the heads of libraries, who get the credit for them, have very little to do with. I wish also to say a word about the "Cumulative index." A great share of the credit of that index belongs to Miss Eliot, who manages the work, and whom many of you have met.

Adjournment was taken at 11.45 a.m.

## *NINTH SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 25.)

The meeting was called to order at 11.50 in the auditorium of the Institute by President BRETT.

H: L. ELMENDORF submitted, from the special committee appointed for the purpose, a

### RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

*Resolved*, That the American Library Association expresses its hearty approval of the methods adopted by those in charge of the selection of plans for the New York Public Library building, both as to the general requirements submitted and the manner of competition.

We rejoice that the needs of the library for administration and public service are to be considered before questions of architectural style and ornament.

We find in the arrangement of a central stack with reading-room above, an excellent provision for ample light, freedom from noise, ready and quick delivery of books, and opportunity for extension as the growth of the library may require.

H. L. ELMENDORF,
CHARLES C. SOULE, } *Committee.*
J. N. LARNED,

The resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

Dr. J. S. BILLINGS offered the following

### RESOLUTION ON TARIFF ON BOOKS.

*Resolved*, I.—That this Association learns with great pleasure that the United States Senate has modified the provisions of the tariff bill in accordance with the recommendations of the Council of this body relating to the free importation of books.

II.—That this Association offers thanks to the Senate for this action, and respectfully urges that the position thus taken be maintained in the Committee of Conference on the tariff bill. *Voted.*

W: I. FLETCHER presented a

### RESOLUTION ON THE U. S. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

The American Library Association wishes to place on record its continued and increasing appreciation of the work of the United States Superintendent of Documents, Mr. F. A. Crandall, and the assistants in his office, especially in the following particulars:

1. In the distribution of documents to libraries. While improvement is still desirable in this matter, which can be secured only through additional legislation, the libraries are at present being served with a promptness and regularity not before attained or approached.

2. In the cataloging of documents. The monthly list, now regularly issued, leaves little to be desired in this regard, while the general catalog, of which the volume covering the 53d Congress is a beginning, bids fair to be much the most satisfactory key to the government documents yet furnished.

3. In the procuring of improved legislation. The present law governing the printing and distribution of documents represents a decided advance beyond preceding laws, but still leaves room for improvement. The Association expresses the earnest hope that a law may soon be enacted embodying the principles of the bill which was passed unanimously by the House in the first session of the 54th Congress, the provisions of which received the hearty endorsement of the leading librarians of the country. *Voted.*

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION OF TITLE-PAGES, ETC.

W: I. FLETCHER. — The Connecticut Library Association in a meeting to which delegates were invited from all the state library associations of New England, and in which they all took part, appointed a committee of two — W. I. Fletcher and T. Solberg — to consider a suggestion being made by librarians to publishers of periodicals, urging reforms in the arrangements usually made as to title-pages, indexes, tables of contents, etc. That committee was to report a recommendation to this Association, and it now recommends that the matter be continued in the hands of a committee of the Association, and that that committee be empowered to draw up a circular to be addressed to the publishers of periodicals, urging the reforms indicated.

A motion to this effect was made, and it was *Voted* that such a committee be appointed. The president later named W: I. Fletcher and Thorvald Solberg as the committee.

MELVIL DEWEY submitted the following resolutions:

CO-OPERATION WITH NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

*Resolved*, That the American Library Association pledges its hearty co-operation to the new Library Department of the National Educational Association, and appoints as its official delegates for 1897, W. H. Brett, Mrs. Theresa West Elmendorf, and Rev. W. R. Eastman, with such other members as may be able to attend the Milwaukee meeting. *Voted.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INVITATION FROM ATLANTA.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the American Library Association be extended to the official representatives of Atlanta for their cordial invitation to meet in their city, with regret that its acceptance must be postponed another year. *Voted.*

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION.

MELVIL DEWEY. — I desire to bring up a matter for consideration during the year, so that we can act upon it next year after a full consideration of the question. I refer to the question of the limitation of our membership. I am totally and utterly opposed to any plan of limiting the membership of this Association. We have tried for 21 years to build up a large association, and if men, women, and children choose to give $2 a year toward the advancement of library work we ought to give them the most cordial encouragement. On the other hand, it is true that we cannot, at large meetings of this sort, give detailed explanations as to many matters, or vote intelligently on many questions. I believe the true solution of this question is an amendment to the constitution. It might be well for us at this meeting to show by a vote that we favor some such amendment, and then the matter will be kept before us during this year, and at the Chautauqua meeting we can discuss it and decide. We should pass this vote to-day, because we cannot amend the constitution except by a three-fourths vote at two successive meetings of the Association. I therefore offer the following:

*Resolved*, That in §17 of the constitution the councillors at large be increased from 20 to 25 by altering the numbers 20, 4, and 8, to 25, 5, and 10, and by adding these words: "In addition to the 25 members above provided for, each state or local library association recognized for this purpose by the council shall be entitled to one councillor of its own selection, and to one additional for each full 100 members." *Voted.*

In the absence of F. J. TEGGART, his paper on

THE LITERATURE OF LIBRARIES

was read by title and ordered printed.

(*See p.* 35.)

Four speakers — WILLIAM BEER, E. S. WILLCOX, F: M. CRUNDEN, and J. N. LARNED — had been appointed to discuss

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION INTO FREE LIBRARIES.

In the absence of Mr. BEER, his contribution to the subject,

THE FISK FREE AND PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NEW ORLEANS,

was read by title and ordered printed.

(*See p.* 32.)

Owing to lack of time, it was found impossible to present the subject with the fulness anticipated.

E. S. WILLCOX. — The astonishing growth of free public libraries in our day, the sunshine of our prosperity, should not blind us to the fact that for more than 140 years it was the subscription library, sustained by much self-denying labor on the part of a few public-spirited men and women in each community, that kept the torch burning that provided at least a little good literature at small cost to souls hungry for books.

In those early days we had three kinds of libraries — the private library, the college library, and the subscription library. Those of us young people who now and then got a peep at the very small and generally very dry library of some doctor of divinity or doctor of medicine, or stole a sip out of Scott or Dumas from the confused conglomeration on some lawyer's table, considered ourselves very fortunate, but happy beyond measure when a few leading citizens clubbed together and started a subscription library in the town with a thousand or two choice books, the backbone of which was for the most part Bohn with an "h," and the annual dues to which were two or three dollars.

The subscription library was a priceless blessing in its day; its memory is dear to many of us still. It ought to have a monument.

But why did it not have a larger clientage? Why did not the women and children who throng our delivery-rooms to-day patronize the subscription library? For the very good reason that they had not the money. The thirst for knowledge which their husbands and fathers may have felt in youth had been dulled by time, or perhaps beguiled into a wilder thirst, which no two dollars a year could appease, and the women and children who still hungered and thirsted for books did not hold the purse-strings.

Our experience in Peoria was, I have no doubt, the same as that of other towns. We had, little by little, built up a well-selected library of 10,000 volumes, with annual dues of $4.

We labored and struggled, ran lecture courses, concerts, dramatic entertainments, spelling bees, and occasionally passed round the hat, but, do our best, could barely keep our heads above water, and add a few hundred books to our collection each year. We never had an average of more than 275 paying members in a population of 25,000, while now, as a free library, in a population of 50,000, our membership exceeds 6000.

We raised the question of supporting the library like our schools, by taxation, but were told very emphatically that the people of Peoria or of Illinois would never, *never*, NEVER tax themselves to support libraries.

But our friends had not yet become acquainted with what now, at the end of this 19th century, is almost a truism, that what never has been done, and never can be done, is the very thing that has got to be done and is going to be done.

At last we grew tired of the uphill work. We said: "If books are good for our wives and children, then the wives and children of our mechanics and laborers in the lower end of town certainly ought to have a taste of them; and if the men will have their tobacco and beer, the women shall have their Mary J. Holmes if they want her.

And from that piratical resolve of a few desperate fellows in Peoria came the free public library law of Illinois in 1872 — the first practical and comprehensive free public library law on the statute-book of any state in the Union.

F. M. CRUNDEN. — I understand New Hampshire passed a law either in 1849 or 1850 establishing public libraries.

E. S. WILLCOX. — The Massachusetts Library law authorized towns to devote certain sums of money to the support of libraries, but I venture to say there were no free libraries to be found in that section; they were subscription libraries, and there was not at that time one general free library law in any of the states of the United States.

J. N. LARNED. — All I intended to add to this subject was to give a brief statement of what we are doing in Buffalo, but I have told the whole story fully in the last annual report of the Buffalo Library, and I would very much rather give the time that I might take for that purpose to a discussion of the elaborate and interesting paper we had yesterday on children's library work.

DISCUSSION ON CHILDREN'S LIBRARY WORK.

J. N. LARNED. — The paper read by Mr. Fairchild yesterday on this subject seems to me to be one of the most important that we have ever had in this Association, as well as one of the most interesting. It is important because it has introduced the suggestion at least of a scientific way of looking at a very important part of our work; a methodical, systematic, scientific, and especially a psychological study of it. It has introduced, for the first time, I think, into our ideas the thought of that kind of psychological study which is doing so much in other educational fields and making such changes in educational work in schools and colleges. And perhaps it was made more interesting to me because I had seen in the work in the children's room at Buffalo the practical outcropping of just that idea, in the mind of Miss Fernald, the young lady who has charge of that room. She has by her work been practically led into the psychological study of the child's mind. In order to understand her children she has found it necessary to go to their schools and learn something of their feeling toward their teachers, see whether it was friendly or unfriendly, and learn what created that feeling in the minds of the children so she could gain suggestions from that knowledge. In one case she found a

number of street children who had come into the room in a warm discussion of the merits of some play of adventure that was running at one of the cheap theatres of the city, and she persuaded a friend to take her to that theatre so that she might see that play and know what it was that had taken this hold on the minds of those children.

Mr. Fairchild's paper has led me to consider one important matter, and that is the greater influence libraries would exercise over children if they were made distinctively for the children. The separation of children's libraries — not merely the adoption of children's rooms in libraries, but the establishment of children's libraries separate from other libraries — seems to me to be a very important suggestion. It is a fact that children like to have ownership in things themselves ; they like to be recognized as what they feel they are — a sort of distinct community. Children are a distinct community, and they have the feeling of a community among themselves ; they do not like to be dealt with as a mere attachment to the older folks, and I think that this is a very important matter, and that we can work out a system in the matter of dealing with children's libraries, in the line suggested by Mr. Fairchild, that will accomplish wonderful results.

Pres. BRETT. — The thing in Mr. Fairchild's paper, with which I am most heartily in accord, is that he suggests an entirely different point of view from that which we ordinarily use in libraries. Mr. Fairchild wants us to look at the child and see what the child needs, what the child wants; while we are apt to look at the child from the librarian's point of view and say what we can do for him. There is a great difference in these points of view.

F: M. CRUNDEN. — We have recently had experience in St. Louis that points to the urgent necessity of carrying out some such plan as Mr. Fairchild suggests. Before I left home a lady who was a former teacher, and who has charge of the juvenile department of our library, asked me if we could not get some more "Mother Goose" rhymes. I asked how many were wanted, and she said, "I want 50." We had, I suppose, about 20 in the library, but the shelves were stripped, and she said it was quite pathetic to have the children come in, look at the empty shelves, and say: "Haven't you got any more 'Mother Gooses'?" We ordered the 50, and also got an appropriation from the book committee of $2000 to supply "Mother Goose" books and simple fairy tales with illustrations, to be sent out to the first four grades of the schools next fall. Since I have been here I find three or four members are working on the same lines, and it has occurred to me that the place to begin is right at the beginning, when the children are first learning to read.

Miss EMMA L. ADAMS. — I do not understand by Mr. Fairchild's paper whether Mr. Fairchild's intention is that the separate children's library shall be under the control of the public library or not. He seemed to think it would be better, as I understand it, to have an entirely separate library. I think that the same result could be attained, and in a better way, by having the separate children's library under the charge of the public library, which is already so much better equipped than any place else for this work. The importance of this work is not sufficiently realized by the public to have it support a separate library for children. The point we aim at is to bring the children into the larger library from the children's library, and that point would be lost if we have a children's library entirely separate in management from our own libraries.

E. M. FAIRCHILD. — I cannot say yes or no to this question. I did not intend a separate management in one sense, and yet in another sense I did. It was the intention that the control of the whole library system should be in the hands of a central library, and the children's libraries in the neighborhood were to be part of the whole library system and be under the charge of a chief librarian.

Miss ANNIE C. MOORE. — The statement has been made that a few children take up the library as a fad. I would like to bring evidence on the other side. During the month of May there were issued 150 examination papers to the children who had been coming to the children's department of the Pratt Institute Library since October of the year before. One hundred of these papers have been examined, and the answers to the first question: "How long have you been taking books from this library?" result as follows: 25 per cent. of the children have taken books for less than a year, but most of

them from between six and nine months; 75 per cent. have taken books for over a year, over two years, three years, and four years, and some for six years. The fact that these children have been coming regularly since last October gives pretty strong proof that they do not use the library as a fad.

E. M. FAIRCHILD. — What I mean is to take the whole body of children and bring out the statistics of library use for the entire child-life of the city. In the instance just given us, only those who have been most faithful to the library are analyzed, and of course there are many children do not take up the library as a fad.

A. W. TYLER presented the

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the A. L. A. are due and are cordially extended to

The officers and members of the Pennsylvania Historical Society for their very courteous welcome and entertainment;

To the President and Board of Trustees of the Drexel Institute for the use of their rooms and the many other courtesies so graciously given, and

To Miss Kroeger, the librarian of the Institute, for her untiring efforts in our behalf;

To Mr. Justus C. Strawbridge for his hospitality and welcome at his beautiful residence;

To the library owners who so kindly placed portions of their rare and unique collections on exhibition for the benefit of the Association;

To the Committee on Temple and to Brother Wyckoff, Chairman of the Committee of Library, for their invitation to visit the Masonic Temple;

To the J. B. Lippincott Co. for the opportunity offered to witness the workings of their bookmaking department;

To the Messrs. Strawbridge & Clothier for the reception at their Poster Exhibition;

To the management and librarians of the libraries of Philadelphia who so cordially invited the Association to meet in that city on this occasion, and for the opportunity to visit their libraries during the convention;

To the members of the local Committee of Arrangements, whose thoughtful consideration for our pleasure and comfort has made our visit exceedingly enjoyable and one long to be remembered; and

To the proprietors and managers of the newspapers of the city of Philadelphia for their very full reports of our proceedings.

W. T. PEOPLES,
A. W. TYLER,
HANNAH P. JAMES, } *Committee.*

The report was adopted by a rising vote.

CORRECTION TO PROCEEDINGS OF CLEVELAND CONFERENCE.

SEC. HAYES. — I move that the report of the proceedings of the Cleveland conference, as published in the *Library Journal*, be adopted, with an amendment, at the request of Mr. S. S. Green, so that a remark by Mr. Green on p. 139, second column — "I wrote many of the articles on Massachusetts cities" should read — "I wrote the article on the city of Worcester." *Voted.*

Adjournment was taken at one o'clock p.m., until Tuesday, June 29, at the Kittatinny House, Delaware Water Gap, when an informal meeting was had, and it was announced that the final session would be held on Thursday, July 1, at the same place.

## *TENTH SESSION.*

(KITTATINNY HOUSE, DELAWARE WATER GAP, THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 1.)

The Association was called to order at 10.30 a.m. by JAMES G. BARNWELL, chairman, who made a short talk on various matters connected with library economy. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the chairman, and no further business being reported, it was duly moved and seconded that the conference stand adjourned, to meet at Chautauqua at such time and place as should be duly appointed by the Executive Board. *Adjourned.*

# THE COLLEGE SECTION OF THE A. L. A.

THE College Section held two sessions, which were joint meetings with the American Library Association, and were largely attended. They were held in one of the classrooms of the Drexel Institute, and were devoted to the consideration of COLLEGE AND REFERENCE LIBRARY WORK.

## *FIRST SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 23.)

The Section was called to order at 9.15 a.m. by W: I. FLETCHER, chairman, and Dr. CYRUS ADLER was appointed secretary of the meeting.

W: I. FLETCHER. — We are to be congratulated this morning on the auspicious beginning of what may almost be called a new era in the history of the Association. Having reached our 21st birthday there is naturally a disposition to see wherein we may as an Association put away childish things and enter upon the functions which belong to maturity. This disposition manifests itself in the suggestions that the Association be re-incorporated and that it become a representative body, suggestions which are to be presented to us at a later session, and which I will not now discuss.

But we must all be agreed that the maturity of the Association is fittingly marked by this beginning of our work by sections. I speak of it as a beginning, for, although we are familiar with the idea of sections, we have not heretofore really made a good beginning in carrying it out. Our meetings of sections have hitherto been mere hurried conferences of those interested in a special part or phase of library work crowded in (or rather crowded out) between regular sessions of the Association. For the first time the Association itself meets this morning in real sectional meetings, and for the first time we have a clear two hours' session, in which we may discuss themes connected with the higher departments of library work without the fear that injustice will be done to the many whose needs and wishes are for help in the elementary part of the calling.

Having made this start with the sectional plan of meetings, it remains for us to provide a proper method of arranging for its carrying out in the future. To what extent the division into sections shall be carried is a question which may better be left to be determined by evident demand than be made a matter for theoretical arrangement.

By the judicious foresight of the Executive Board of the Association we have two sessions at this conferenee — the one on Friday morning and the present one — devoted to advanced library work. The programs of these two sessions have been so arranged that the meeting of to-day will consider questions especially relating to college and university libraries, and that of Friday those common to reference libraries and the advanced work of public libraries in general. Two matters of detail should receive our attention. First the question of nomenclature. On right definition everywhere depends correct and lucid thought. And our work as a section will be decidedly advantaged if we can choose a name for this Section that shall be simple and perspicacious.

The second matter of detail to which I would refer is also one of importance. The Section must have a continuous organization. There may be differing views as to what form this organization should take. Simplicity is rightly regarded as the chief merit in such matters of organization, and it would seem quite sufficient that we should each year choose a chairman and a secretary of the Section for the ensuing year. Their chief duty would be the arrangement, in consultation with the Executive Board of the Association, of the program for the Section's meetings. How these officers shall be chosen is another question of some importance. It is desirable that it should not be done in a purely haphazard manner, and the best results will follow from the adoption of a few simple regulations for the conduct of their election. The first of these should perhaps provide for an annual change in the *personnel* of these offices.

I am not prepared to make any opening address at this session, even were such an address seemly for the occasion. I may be allowed a sentence in which to express my growing conviction, in which I feel sure you all share, that the librarians of the college, university, and school libraries of the country occupy a posi-

tion, in the felicity of our surroundings, in the congeniality of our work, and in the possibilities of good which await its faithful performance, second to that of no other class of librarians. In the development of these possibilities into actual results we can but find great advantage in mutual conference, and I take pleasure in asking your attention now to the program before us, and in declaring this session open for business.

G: W: HARRIS then gave informally his

NOTES ON THE GOVERNMENT AND CONTROL OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

(*See p.* 55.)

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION.

On motion of Mr. AUSTIN, a Committee on Organization of the Section was appointed as follows: WILLARD H. AUSTIN, Miss OLIVE B. JONES, CLEMENT W. ANDREWS. The committee was also directed to report on an adequate name for the Section, which should include in its meaning that of the advanced and higher part of the work done by the Section, and to bring in nominations for chairman and secretary.

DISCUSSION ON MANAGEMENT OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES.

Dr. ADLER. — I should like to ask Mr. Harris what he thinks of the relations between the work of the librarian and the work of the publication department in a university or library which publishes its own publications.

G: W: HARRIS. — I have not had much experience with that at Cornell. We have as yet no definite system for our publications, some of which are published by outside publishers. The "Studies in philology" are published under the supervision of the professors of the classical department. There is no general scheme for university publications. I think it would be wise to have a separate officer in charge of all the publications of the university, and, personally, I am not inclined to favor that officer being the librarian.

Dr. ADLER. — The reason I asked the question was because I think the universities in this country which have now become their own publishers — many of them have become, practically, publishing societies — are not reaping the benefit to their libraries which they might. Most of these publications, I take it, are not financial successes; they are run at a loss. If, therefore, they were managed in some way in relation to the library, and a system of exchange was instituted and kept up, I believe any university in this country that publishes anything of value would get more in return for exchanges, for its library, than the outlay in publication. That is an experience which I have had in other directions; it requires work to do this, and it means the keeping up of a pretty active correspondence, but I think it is worthy of a trial.

E. C. RICHARDSON then took the chair.

G: W: HARRIS. — We get philosophical exchanges for our library, but the plan is not altogether satisfactory. Some of those exchanges go first to the editorial-room, and they are used by the persons appointed to make the abstracts for the *Philosophical Review*, so they are very late in getting to the library. To be sure, they concern chiefly one department, and are not so late for it as some others might be, but that is one of the objections we find to such a system.

E. C. RICHARDSON. — I stand at the opposite pole from Mr. Harris in my attitude toward the subject, in that while he has no theory and a good deal of government, I have a distinct theory and very little government in my library. The theory that I have is distinctly opposed to the plan of government as exercised in Mr. Harris' library. That is to say, as I understand it, the best method of control for a college library would not allow any representative from the different departments and faculty on the governing council, if there was a council. Or, if it were proposed to us to have a council in which there was a representative from each of the departments of the university, I would say: "Very well; but you will naturally allow us a representative from every department of the library on each of the governing boards of the university." I do not see any advantage in the discrimination which allows the faculty to direct or control in the library council. Theoretically I would say, clearly and succinctly, I have perfect willingness to be overruled by our own board, but it seems to me, in the proper organization of things, the library council ought to be organized in such a way that it shall be a board, of itself, responsible to the trustees for its own doings as any other department of the university would be. The president, of course, would be the head of the council under that theory, and the council would bear to the board

of trustees exactly the same relation that any other department of an organized university would.

C. W. ANDREWS. — I would like to insist on the point Mr. Harris brought out on the appropriation of the library book fund even where that appropriation is made in gross and it rests with the sub-committee on books to make a division. I have given this advice to one or two libraries starting, and it seems to me the best way obtainable with the growth of the library, and really, with the increase of subjects about which books are written, it is about the only way by which we can secure a fairly representative growth. It does not seem to me unnecessarily detailed work for any library — any reference library as well as a college library — to determine beforehand about what proportion of book money should go to the different classes of literature, and I think that anybody who tries it, if they would look back into their orders before having such a scheme, would be surprised to find how their own personal bias or the wishes of certain heads of the book community had twisted the appropriation of book money. It is this point which I think one of the most important in the management of reference libraries.

V. LANSING COLLINS read a paper by ALFRED C. POTTER on

SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR THE COLLEGE LIBRARY.

(*See p.* 39.)

W. W. BISHOP. — I should like to take brief issue with the author of the paper on the matter of periodicals. It seems to me that his statement that the technical periodicals are largely of temporary value is far from correct. I know certainly there is nothing in my own work that I go to with more interest than periodical literature of even 50 years ago, to say nothing of that of to-day, and I do not believe it is of a temporary character. Although the demand for books as books is heavy, it seems to me the transactions of learned societies and information on technical subjects being frequently found in periodicals, that such periodicals must come to have a very much larger place in the library of the university than they have had in the past or even have at the present time.

W. J. JAMES. — My own experience is that, in general, the professors in chemistry, for instance, have very little use for periodicals more than 10 years old. They consult current numbers, while the professors in philosophy and history, and what is called the more liberal departments, constantly make use of the older periodicals, and probably such periodicals are of practical use at the present time. But still, I do not believe in the cutting off of periodicals. The fact Mr. Potter points out has some bearing, but unfortunately we cannot discriminate; there may be 10 volumes or 50 volumes in succession that contain little that is wanted, but the odd volume is the one that contains the important paper, and one must go back to that because that paper is not republished.

C. W. ANDREWS. — I would like to say as a librarian and as a chemist — my training for 15 years before I went into the library was that of a specialist in chemistry — that the statement that the chemist does not care for books or periodicals that are over 10 years old seems to me so far from true that I must contradict it. My work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was largely bibliographic, and the problems presented were certainly those which required the seeking of bibliographic information. The people seeking such information went back to all sources, and they found almost invariably that the makers of the present books had overlooked statements and expressions; they would find in the older periodicals statements of fact which were afterwards reproduced as new discoveries. And I think I have, for one, by doing such bibliographic work, acquired a better knowledge of the subject than could have been obtained in any other way.

As to the practical side of the question, the librarian is concerned in the rather large expenditure in starting a new library. I asked the committee to set aside one-half the funds for the purchase of back sets of periodicals and one-half the current funds for subscriptions to new periodicals. The demand of my readers has been for more sets rather than more books. In reference work, periodicals are the bone of the library, and furnish probably two-thirds of the really serious work done in it.

W. H. AUSTIN. — I cannot speak from the standpoint of a chemist, but if the experience of a librarian counts, I want to say you cannot draw any line as to time in periodicals; they go as far back as you can get them and come down to the present time, and are use-

ful, especially in advanced work in the university. A man cannot do a piece of advanced work unless he gets at the literature on that subject, and if he stops short of everything that has been written on the subject he feels he is on dangerous ground. And I know from experience that men do go back just as far as they can on every subject they have to investigate, and everything short of complete sets of periodicals running back would cripple a university library.

I want to say one word in reference to the point Mr. Richardson raised in reference to the library council. Mr. Richardson, I take it, would try to put a library on the same basis as every other department of the university. I do not believe it can be put there, because each department in the university is, in a measure, distinct. The work of each department is carried on by its own members, and does not interfere with another department. But the work of the university library embraces all departments, and I do not think you can classify a university library as you classify the other departments of the university, because its interests are so much more diversified, and it is therefore necessary to provide some means, as has been outlined in Mr. Harris' remarks, and outlined in the paper from Mr. Potter, of getting the other departments interested and building it up, and then if the library is thus supplemented you have a most perfect division of the work.

W. J. James. — There is one point that has not been brought out very prominently in the consideration of the subject of purchasing periodicals: that is, the fact that you can buy almost any book at any time, while the question of purchasing periodicals is a very different one, and a much more troublesome and expensive one, because you cannot supply at will parts of sets. So, I think I would buy chemical periodicals even for the ungrateful chemist.

Dr. Adler. — I am glad to see the importance of the subject is so fully recognized. The publication of a scientific paper in a periodical, or in the transactions of a learned society, is the only proper way in which to issue it. The printing of separate papers is nothing but a nuisance, and it gives the bibliographer more trouble than anything else that is done. There is no need of emphasizing the statement that the scientific man, the historian, or the theologian must work with periodicals and with transactions of societies.

I am going to advise again what I advised before, and what the librarian of Cornell University seemed to turn aside as not an important matter. Every university of any size in this country is becoming a publishing society; the publications are issued haphazard by certain professors; they are given over to firms that have to be paid substantially for publishing them, and nobody gets any money out of it for the college. If the publication of these works was centralized and the publications were sent out under the control of the librarian for the regulation of exchanges, the whole problem of expense for current subscriptions to transactions of societies and periodicals would be a much easier one. I feel quite certain of that, because I have seen it tried in two places with great success. In Johns Hopkins University the publication work and library work have gone hand in hand from the first day, and, for a new university library — it is only 20 or 21 years old — they have a remarkably good collection. In the library of the Smithsonian Institution the whole endeavor has been from the outset to make it a library of transactions of societies and periodicals. That is also true in the Royal Society. Almost everything that comes in is in exchange for publications sent out. I believe, and I think I said last year, that the Smithsonian Institution has received books for its library, through exchanges, of greater value than all the money it has expended in publication, which is something over a million of dollars. I do not say that the librarian should be charged with the publications; there ought to be a publication agent of the university; but I do say nothing should be sent out by the university that the librarian does not get something for. That can be done.

James C. Hanson. — Having encouraged the faculty as much as possible towards securing transactions of societies and periodicals, I hope to see, in the first part of the next century at least, some index that will take the place of the present cumbersome ones. I think if the international scientific index is a success, others of that nature will follow it.

E. C. Richardson. — I hope we shall discuss a little further the practical matter of the method and distribution of funds among the departments. Our own method at Princeton

is limited. A committee of the faculty decide amongst themselves what each one shall spend on that account, and that is supplemented in the general departments by the librarian.

W. P. CUTTER. — When I took charge of the library of the Department of Agriculture — which is a reference library and where the scientific divisions correspond to the different schools in a university — I found there had been a certain arrangement similar to the one indicated. I found also that about March of each year — our fiscal year ending the 30th of June — probably half of the divisions would have spent all their money and the other half of the divisions would have spent none of the money that was allotted to them. Our purchases were made from funds where two-thirds or three-fourths of the money is spent in buying sets of periodicals, and this has been so for the last three or four years. Our library is under the disadvantage that our appropriation on the 30th of June goes back into the United States Treasury and cannot be spent after that. Under such circumstances it was absolutely necessary that the former plan be abandoned, because in March or April it is too late to buy books, for they cannot be paid for under the law. We have no board of trustees, and have practically no oversight except the head of the department. The plan at present is that each scientific worker in the department — not the head of the division, but each scientific worker — shall present titles of books as he desires them, with written reasons for their purchase, and special reasons, in case of works of large value. I have found that plan to work very well. Of course one condition exists with us that is not always true of other libraries, and that is we have more money than we can spend.

E. C. RICHARDSON. — I would like to say a word myself, on the matter of distribution of funds, because I find myself in somewhat of a quandary as to the advisability of continuing our plan of distribution of funds. One thought that Mr. Potter has brought out in his paper, and that has been commonly noted, is that of the great irregularity of professors in opposite departments taking up their appropriations. After an experience of a dozen years with that system, which seems to be theoretically very good, I find it works so irregularly, and the results attained are so far from being what they theoretically should be, that I am doubtful whether such a plan as has been referred to as being in use in the Department of Agriculture might not be a good plan for us — the plan of having the professors send titles of books that they would recommend, and that they be from time to time informed when and to what extent they, in the judgment of the committee, are exceeding the proper amount to be spent in that department. I am not prepared to say that would be better, but I am prepared to say that our experience with the other plan has not been wholly satisfactory.

G: W: HARRIS. — Some of Mr. Potter's strictures are not quite true. I think he slightly exaggerated some instances. In our own case our fiscal year ends on July 30. The appropriations to the different departments must be taken up by orders for the different amounts by June 1. Any amount not taken up by that date reverts to the library council and may be used for general works. It is my practice to send out, about the first of May and a month before the last orders are due, a notice to the head of each department that he has a balance remaining of so much, and unless orders are handed in to that amount before the first of June the orders will be cancelled and the amount turned over to the library council. And as a result, very few allowances are permitted to lapse. In very few cases have I had difficulty with professors who do not order their amount.

W. H. AUSTIN. — I would like to hear something upon the point raised by Mr. Potter in regard to the duplication of books.

E. C. RICHARDSON. — I understand Mr. Potter referred to the wishes of some professors to have books multiplied — 10 or 50 copies of certain books added to the library of the institution. Is it proper if the professor is allowed $100 to spend for books in a limited time, for him to say he would much rather have the library get 30 copies of one book and spend the $100 on that than spend it any other way? Is that a proper interpretation to put upon the liberty he has to recommend books?

G: W: HARRIS. — I should say it is not. And, frequently, we do deposit from the general library sets of periodicals in the different seminary rooms, but those periodicals are still available for use in the general reading-room, and can be drawn out by the general users of the

library as any other library book can be drawn. It is our general practice to allow each professor to order the book he chooses for his collection, but each seminary library gets an appropriation from the funds of the university for the building up of its seminary collection, and the historical and literary professors apply on the ground that large appropriations were made to the scientific department for apparatus, and these books are to be considered as the apparatus of the historical and literary departments.

E. C. RICHARDSON. — It was said of library administration that all departments are interested in the library in a way in which they are interested in no one single department elsewhere. I want to call attention to the fact that there is one department in which we are all interested; in which we are more interested than any other, and that is the treasury department. But no one would think, as a matter of discretion, of appointing a committee from each department of the faculty to run that department. I say the selection of books can be done with perfect ease by an organization separate from the other departments. A professor should be allowed all the books he wants, but they could be obtained for him in a much better way than by giving the amateur — as the professor usually is — an absolute voting voice in the consideration of technical matters, in which the skilled person is only competent to have a voice.

H. W. GATES. — In regard to this matter of duplicates, I can give simply the testimony of a comparatively small library, the library of the Chicago Theological Seminary. Previous to the last two years the faculty had full swing, each professor ordering all the books he wanted for his department. I find in a very large number of cases that different professors have had need for a work on special lines and have ordered duplicates. With the single exception of works on Assyrian texts and in the departments of histology and Egyptology, which class of books are too expensive to get for the students themselves, in every instance where duplicates have been ordered they have proved of temporary value only. We have a choice selection of duplicates which we would be glad to get rid of to the highest bidder, and it seems to me this plan of duplicating a work for temporary use is not a wise one.

V. LANSING COLLINS. — On the other hand, I can speak of one course in Princeton where we duplicate in the library to the number of three or four copies at least, year after year.

G. H. BAKER. — I do not think there is much occasion for duplicating books for graduating students. Ordinarily, all this matter of duplication represents material needed for the sophomores and juniors and seniors in a college course. In our library we have not, thus far, duplicated very largely. Of course, there are some historical and literary works of which we have duplicate copies of the same issue, but we content ourselves by getting different editions of the same work. But of course, when you come to economics and social sciences and history, and you have a class of undergraduates required to read certain books, we feel more strongly the need of supplying those. Just at present I have on my desk a list of works in American history, of which two or three or four copies are desired by the department of history. On the other hand, as far as our needs are concerned, no such large duplication as I fear takes place sometimes — of 10, 20, or 30 copies — would be necessary. Of course, we have not so large a body of graduates to provide for. My impression is that, as a rule, the librarian, if he has authority as he should have, ought to hedge in and restrain this enthusiasm, especially of the younger instructors, to get text-books which they need.

I might say a word concerning this matter of periodicals and the distribution of funds. We felt a good many years ago that what a university library needed was original records, and just as far as it has been possible with the funds at hand to get those, it has been our effort to put the money into such sets. There is one thought in this connection, as a mere matter of economy in buying, that has not yet been alluded to, and that is this: Not a few of the recommendations which come to us are for papers, monographs on scientific subjects, which are nothing but extracts and reprints. I suppose the number of reprints and extracts recommended to our library for purchase would amount to a great many hundreds of dollars. Now, these are recommended usually without any special knowledge on the part of the officer that they are extracts. Of course, if the money is limited and he happens to want a paper that was issued in 1870 in such a periodical, or issued as a monograph separately, what he par-

ticularly wants at that time is that paper, and he dislikes to have his money put into a series of volumes of any of those societies which may contain much more than he wants, or which he does not want as badly as he needs this part. I have had some trouble in the past in persuading these officers that they should not spend their money for these separate extracts, and sometimes they complain because the orders for these are laid aside and they do not get them. But I think most of them soon learn the wisdom of what is done. Now we have taken pains to catalog the sets we have at hand and make them available, so far as cataloging is concerned. I think you will find in building up a library the matter of buying extracts is a great waste of money. On the other hand, those extracts when they come to us by exchange or gift, on a specific subject, we bind together.

Coming back to the matter of distribution of funds and buying periodicals: the things clash. If your funds are all distributed around among the departments — and unfortunately it is a small sum when we come to divide it up — when you come to distribute the sum total available among a dozen or 15 or 20 departments, there is very little available for a single periodical. We have had a varied experience in that matter, and while I think we divide up the money as much as we have to, we avoid dividing it as much as we can. We have on our books at present credits to some departments that have been there for two years. Then, on the other hand, in other departments the money has been expended in three months. As a rule, we have tried to ignore this division and have put the money, where a department left its money unspent for a year or more, in buying something which comes reasonably within the scope of that department, and by that means get what we need.

W: I. FLETCHER then resumed the chair, and C: ALEX. NELSON read his paper on

A BIT OF CLASSIFICATION: TREATMENT OF HARVARDIANA BY THE HARVARD CLUB OF NEW YORK CITY.

(*See p.* 61.)

W: I. FLETCHER. — This bit of classification will interest us all as being an example of entire freedom in classifying for a special purpose. It occurred to me when this subject was first brought up that it might be useful as suggesting how we might arrange the publications connected with our own institutions, but I think we all see at a glance it is almost impossible to arrange publications of our graduates on this plan unless you have two copies of each, because you must feel as I do, that the publications of our graduates form an essential part of the literature in the library, and we have adopted the plan of always putting the first copy there.

W. H. AUSTIN. — I would like to ask why you adopt the class instead of the alphabetical order?

C. A. NELSON. — In order to bring out the historical record. If that was not done you would get them out of place historically. By arranging by classes, a man coming in 1855, for instance, wants to know what has been published by his classmates, and he goes right to the shelves and finds everything connected with his class on one shelf.

W: I. FLETCHER. — I have to present a letter addressed to myself, personally, from Mr. H. L. KOOPMAN, who kindly consented at the last moment to give us a few words on

COLLEGE INSTRUCTION IN BIBLIOGRAPHY.

I have never tried anything but the most elementary instruction, though what I offer is called a seminary course. Next year I expect to give a course of three hours a week during the last term, which will make about 30 lectures. For the last two years I have given a course of one hour a week during the last two terms of the year, but the trouble was that a one-hour course did not fit into the general scheme, and my classes have been too small, never more than five. The change of method will give me more pupils, I hope, as well as afford me more time to treat the subjects taken up. My subjects next year will be something as follows:

*Books.*

1. Bibliography — Introductory.
2. Books before printing.
3. Classic books.
4. Transmission of ancient books.
5. Mediæval books.
6. Evolution of printing.
7. Printing.
8. Binding.
9. Publishing.

10. Bookselling and Bookbuying.
11. Authorship.
12. Reading.
13. Preserving the results of reading.
14. Reference books.
15. Periodicals.

*Libraries.*

1. Ancient libraries.
2. Mediæval libraries.
3. English (Modern).
4. European (Modern).
5. American (Modern).
6. Boston Public Library.
7. Harvard University Library.
8. Library of Congress.
9. Providence Public Library.
10. The public library movement.
11. Classification.
12. Cataloging.
13. Administration.
14. Library buildings.
15. Library's place in education.

The British Museum Library, or the Bibliothèque Nationale, may be substituted for two American libraries.

The arrangement of my class hour is as follows: I first give the titles of the books on the subject, showing the books and talking about them. As far as possible I confine my list to English books. Then I lecture for half an hour. Then we have one or two brief topical reports from students. Every student is expected to write one extended paper, or thesis, during the term, and at the close of the term there is the regular examination, as in all the college classes.

I have generally had good students, and I can say that I have enjoyed giving the course. I cannot say how much the students have profited by it, but I think they have learned something. What I have had in mind is not the training of men to be librarians, but to have such a general knowledge of books and libraries as shall help them as students, and be of service to themselves and the public if they are ever called upon to serve as trustees or on book committees of libraries.

Miss KATHARINE L. SHARP. — Instruction in library work was taken up by the University of Chicago in December, 1896, and several classes have been conducted: one class was given at Cleveland in December, one class in Geneva, Ill., and another in Aurora. The intention of this course was to supply general information to outsiders. It was not at all the idea to train the librarian or train the assistants. A course of 12 lessons was provided: one on library publications; one on library training; one on the American Library Association; one on state and local associations; and it is proposed to follow that by three or four lessons on the scope and use of reference-books, docketing, indexing, dictionaries, encyclopædias, and practical handbooks; and perhaps a talk on bookbinding, etc.

The methods of the work are those of University Extension. While the University Extension in the University of Chicago is carried out in two ways, the class lecture and the class study, we have chosen the class study, because the lecture plan will take large classes, while the class study work will be given if six people will support it; that is, by each one paying six dollars for the course of 12 lessons, and a share of the lecturer's travelling expenses. With a class varying from six to 40 in number, as we have had, it is quite possible for the teacher to come into close class relations with the students, and so far as I have heard, the results have been satisfactory. The first classes were given at Cleveland, and the 40 members were all members of Mr. Brett's library, but other classes have been made up of members of women's clubs and representatives of teachers, as well as the local librarians and trustees. We hope in future that we may be able to report more progress.

W: I. FLETCHER. — May I ask as a matter of information, if there were 40 students in Cleveland who paid six dollars apiece for this instruction?

Miss SHARP. — Yes, sir.

W: I. FLETCHER. — It was very much to their credit.

Miss SHARP. — It certainly was. It is also a matter of congratulation for Mr. Brett. They not only paid the six dollars, but each one paid her share of the teacher's travelling expenses. The teacher came from Chicago and boarded at an expensive hotel, and her expenses were paid in this way. It being Christmas week, you may understand the students made a sacrifice at that time.

Dr. ADLER. — Inasmuch as both professors

and students are absent from this meeting we can talk with a little freedom about them. I was glad to notice that Mr. Koopman had written a word on the subject of teaching bibliography in universities and colleges, because I think it is a very important one. I believe that a great many college students do not know how to use the books that will help them in their work, and I think that some sort of instruction ought to be given to them. It would not need to be very much; it would not need to be three hours a week, by any means. I should think that one course in one year, sophomore or junior, of 12 hours, would be enough. And I think that all post-graduate students — I will not speak of professors — would be very much assisted if they were given some instruction in what I would consider bibliography in the narrow sense, namely: how to prove when they are writing anything, that they had consulted the proper authorities. We all know that many publications are lumbered up with unnecessary citations. We all know many publications are rendered less valuable by the absence of essential citations, and we all know to our sorrow that most people cite things inaccurately. My notion is that the teaching of bibliography should have no reference to training librarians or librarian assistants, but should teach undergraduate students how to learn the resources of the library and then teach graduate students how to prevent other people from being worried by improper citations.

Mrs. Frances H. Hess. — I should hope these lesser aids could be given in the public schools before the boys go into college. If a little instruction of this kind could be given in the high schools, the freshman and sophomore would know about these helps when they entered college. A superintendent whom I know used a little pamphlet published in 1888 on the college library as an aid to instruction, and I am sure it was of the greatest value to the class and in the after-lives of the pupils.

G: W: Harris. — In my own work I get the class together immediately after they are registered in the fall term, and give them a talk on the reference library and some of the more important reference-books and the way in which to use them. That talk occupies about an hour. Then in the winter and spring terms they have a course of elementary lectures on bibliography, which is given for the benefit of those who chose to take the course.

W. W. Bishop. — It appears to me a good deal of emphasis has been laid on this matter from a wrong point of view. If an instructor is good for anything he certainly ought to teach his elementary pupils and see that his advanced pupils follow out the instructions given them in regard to making a citation and how to use advanced books with accuracy. It may be that a number of instructors in our colleges are not keeping up with their duty in this matter, but I know in my college course it was one of the earliest things laid before me, even as early as the freshman year.

Dr. B. C. Steiner. — Even if the instructors are competent, I do not think it is their duty to give this instruction. For instance, I do not think it is the duty of an instructor in history or chemistry to call the attention of students to the fact of the existence of "Poole's index," or that there is such a book in existence as the "Encyclopædia Britannica." I do not exaggerate when I say that three-fourths of each class coming to college never heard of "Poole's index," and do not know much about the "Encyclopædia Britannica" beyond the fact they see sets of it in store windows, or see advertisements offering it for sale. There are a few general principles for using a library and for the characterization of reference-books which ought to be made clear by the librarian at the beginning of the college course. I know if such instruction had been given to me the first year I was at college it would have been a very valuable thing. I only gained such information early in my college course because I prowled around the library before the first term was over; those that did not prowl around did not gain it. It seems to me that no instructor in any special branch ought to be forced to bother with this general book instruction. After two or three general lines of inquiry have been indicated to the students, however, then comes the special case of how to use books in their own special line, and here the instructor in any line ought to give the men in his class an idea of what books they ought to use, how to get at them, and how to use them.

W. J. James. — I have taken our freshmen in sections through the library, in the past two years, and have talked to each section for one

hour. But I noticed last year from the statistics of the use of the library, that that single hour of instruction in the use of reference-books and the use of the library brought about a decided increase in the use of the library by the freshmen. Of course, I do not mean that it takes the place of the present instruction of the individual. But from recollection of my own college days I can say that scarcely one man out of 10 has any conception of the use of the library, and I think such instruction ought to be given to the whole class. I was assisted in this matter by the instructor who had charge of the freshmen's compositions. He would put down as one of the subjects to write about "The college library and its use," and of course the freshmen were obliged to come in and get the raw material for their productions. This had the result of encouraging a large number of them to make some use of the library.

G: H. BAKER. — Almost every year since I have been connected with the Columbia University Library there has been something attempted toward the instruction of students in the use of the library. I think we all agree on how important and necessary it is for the students to know something about the library and its use, for their own sakes. But the difficulty is in imparting that knowledge to them. If you gave all the freshmen in college a lecture of an hour they would come away with a remarkably small amount of actual information. The subject is too new for them and you are obliged to present it too abstractly. I think the best thing you can do in the course of an hour's talk is to impress on those men that there is a good deal that it is important to them to know, and that they had better come to you or to your assistants in the library and find out the details that have been hinted at. From my own experience, I think the way to teach young men something about bibliography and libraries is not so much by lectures as by what is termed in other sciences "laboratory work." Get them to the library and show them the books and the catalog. It is a great deal more practical. I could give one man or two or three men more information in 15 minutes about how to use the library, in the library itself, where there are books and catalogs and helps to be shown to them, than I could give in half a dozen lectures in the class-room.

Adjournment was taken at 11.50 a.m.

## *SECOND SESSION.*

(DREXEL INSTITUTE, FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 25.)

The College Section was called to order at 9.10 a.m. by ERNEST C. RICHARDSON, chairman, who delivered his address on

### THE SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST AMONG BOOKS.

(*See p.* 45.)

W: I. FLETCHER then took the chair and delivered his remarks on

### INDEX PROSPECTS AND POSSIBILITIES.

(*See p.* 61.)

Dr. CYRUS ADLER spoke on

### THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON A CATALOG OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

(*See p.* 58.)

W: I. FLETCHER. — One important matter has not been mentioned by Dr. Adler. The Royal Society in working towards this date, 1900, for the beginning of the new index, has undertaken not only to bring its present catalog up to that date but to produce an alphabetical subject index up to that date. Mr. Foster, secretary of the Society, assures me of this.

Four speakers — Dr. J: S. BILLINGS, G: H. BAKER, C. W. ANDREWS, and Miss NINA E. BROWNE — had been appointed to speak upon the next subject,

### CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING OF ANALYTICAL REFERENCES.

Dr. BILLINGS. — The immediate proposition which brings me before you is an arrangement, which has been practically completed, between the library of Columbia University, New York, the John Crerar Library, Chicago, the Boston Public Library, and the New York Public Library, with the general understanding that the library of Harvard University would join, to prepare an analytical catalog indexing certain serials, including periodicals, transactions of societies, papers issued by societies, etc., such as are not covered by "Poole's index," and which are not likely to be covered by the international scientific index, concerning which Dr. Adler has spoken. As the scheme was elaborated between the librarians of these different libraries, it was provided that each library should select certain journals or serials, which it would analyze or index for

itself in any case, and should furnish to the other libraries participating, copies of the index cards or slips. It was agreed that these should be printed and that an arrangement should be made for their exchange, either by having them all printed at one place and the cost divided, or having an exchange of a certain number of slips between the libraries. The details have been deferred until we could obtain estimates as to the cost of doing the work in the different ways. It was then suggested that there were other libraries that would be glad to obtain copies of these index slips, and that some arrangement ought to be made by which they could obtain them. I have received a letter from Miss Browne, written at the request of Mr. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, saying that this work is valuable, and that, should it be extended to a larger number of libraries, the Publishing Section of the A. L. A. would like to undertake the publication of the cards in order to make it possible for other libraries, unable to co-operate in cataloging, to purchase them to a limited extent.

As to the character of the literature which is to be analyzed or indexed by the four or five libraries that have thus far agreed to co-operate in the work, I have indicated in a general way the class of publications not indexed by Poole or any such index as that of the *Review of Reviews*. But publications relating to the mathematical, physical, and natural sciences, such as are distinctly taken up by the international co-operative index under the direction of the Royal Society, will not be included. There remains, however, a very considerable mass of publications which are of great interest and value, including for example a large part of philology — the inclusion of which will depend upon the decision of the organizing committee for the international scientific index as to whether or not they will include philology or what portion of philology they will include in their index — periodicals relating to philology and history, historical societies for example, and genealogical publications and papers ; also sociology, economics, transportation, statistics relating thereto, finance and so on, all of which are matters on which it is very desirable a large library should be able to inform its readers as to the latest discussions and papers contained in periodicals or the transactions of societies specially devoted to those subjects.

As a preliminary matter, Mr. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, prepared a memorandum of those publications which it was proposed to index or analyze in that library. Mr. Baker, of Columbia University, prepared a similar list of those which he analyzed, and Mr. Putnam prepared a list of those which the Boston Public Library was prepared to take, the latter desiring especially to cover the subject of geography. Altogether, it seems that we may start in a modest way by each library taking about 30 journals, the indexing of which is not very much work. Each library will undoubtedly want to index or analyze certain details which the other libraries will not care about, and this plan is not in the slightest degree calculated to interfere with their doing so.

It does not seem worth while to go into financial details now nor to read the list of journals proposed to be indexed. When ready we shall publish, through the *Library Journal* or by special circular, a list of the journals we are proposing to have indexed, and also such information as we can obtain as to the cost of obtaining this service. I presume that if 15 or 20 libraries wanted all these titles, the cost would certainly not exceed one cent per card. Some libraries would want two cards for each article, in order to arrange one under the name of the author and one under the subject. Most libraries, I think, would only want one card. But suppose only 10 libraries want all the titles, and that several other libraries do not want all but want selections ; that will involve raising the cost, so that it may possibly reach a cent and a half. For the five libraries that have gone into this plan, if they provide for themselves alone, it would cost probably between a cent and a half and a cent and a quarter per card. This brings up the question which each librarian and board of trustees will do well to consider. It is for them to say to what extent they will receive index cards of certain journals, and whether they wish to obtain index cards for serials which they do not receive. They must decide, for instance, whether they wish to pay $60 a year for a set of cards indexing a number of serials on banking, statistics, sociology, philology, etc., of which they are getting perhaps but half a dozen volumes, simply to show those who consult their catalogs where this information might be had. How far it is well to spend your money in fur-

nishing a list of what you have not got, instead of attempting to furnish readers with satisfactory information on what you have, is a question of management for each library. The libraries of the great universities and the great libraries of large cities are the places to which investigators and scholars come for information in special research, and I think it is quite clear it will be important to those libraries to take just as many of these series of index cards as possible.

Is it worth while for other libraries to make these subscriptions? That is a question to be left to each individual library. All I can say is my own individual opinion, that if I were in charge of a library in a small town — a lending library of about 16,000 volumes — and if I wanted to keep up the interest of my people in that library, I would do the very best I could for it. I would take the principal journals, selecting them as carefully as I could with reference to the wants and needs of the community, and I would have those journals indexed within 24 hours of the time of their arrival at the library. I would not wait for "Poole's index" to come five or six or seven years afterwards.

It is urged in favor of co-operation and of putting matters into the hands of a central body or bureau, that you can diminish the expense to the individual libraries. Trustees are told that if they will subscribe to a publication fund or subscribe liberally for an index they will not need so many catalogers and will be able to cut down their force. That is a kind of argument that I object to. But I believe it is a very good thing to do work that will be for the benefit not only of your individual library or yourself, but for the benefit of other libraries and other people.

E. C. Richardson. — The question of the division of the field between the index planned by the Royal Society and that of which Dr. Billings speaks is as yet entirely open and must be studied with care. In regard to what Dr. Billings has said of libraries smaller than 40,000 or 50,000 volumes, it would be a question with us whether we could afford to pay $60 for these cards. But suppose we had also to pay $50 to the Royal Society, I would expect to go before our board of trustees and urge that this be paid from the fund given to the college for the purpose of paying for the cataloging work of the library. This fund, of about $300, was left as an endowment for that purpose, and the gentleman who gave it knew of no way of furnishing readers with a guide except by the old way of cataloging — employing some one to catalog. It would be perfectly legitimate that some of that money should be appropriated, if needed, to purchasing these cards.

G. H. Baker. — After what Dr. Billings has said about the general scope of this undertaking, very little remains for me to say. In our library we look upon periodical articles and the publications of learned societies in the same way we look upon individual books or pamphlets; that is, each must be treated from a library standpoint and cataloged as a bibliographic entry. As it stands, it must be indexed with as much care as if it were a book, and the entries, such as they are, must be prepared so that they can be put into our catalog with its hundreds of thousands of cards and take their place without lack of harmony. This we do because these publications are of much importance as bibliographic items, outside of their existence as part of a periodical publication. If we can do this by co-operation it is a most desirable thing to do. One reason why so many co-operative schemes have failed is owing to the cards themselves. They suited some ideal scheme, perhaps, but did not suit any particular library, or where they suited one library they did not suit others. If a card is not fairly uniform with our other cards in size, and above all in mechanical execution, it is of no use to us; it must be a card that will go into our general catalog and be serviceable.

There are a large body of institutions having substantially the same material to catalog month by month and week by week, and therefore the material to be cataloged is uniform. There must be, then, first, uniformity in size, and then general uniformity in the plan of the catalog and in the accuracy and detail of the cataloging. If we fail in those particulars the work will not be satisfactory. If we can agree on making a high grade of catalog, the financial details, I am sure, can be settled through the Publishing Section. But without referring to details, I want to emphasize the thought that those who are engaged in co-operating with us, by purchase or otherwise, must insist that thoroughly good work be done in this indexing.

C. W. ANDREWS. — As to the question of economy, we will agree with Dr. Billings in reprehending any attempt to cut down individual library cataloging, yet we can also look on the question of economy from the other side and say that with the same expenditure of money, which may be the maximum of the funds of the library, we can do five or 10 times as much work in this way as we could separately, and that point I think Mr. Baker did not sufficiently dwell upon. The fact is, all these five libraries are doing more or less — many of them a great deal more — of this work already than they could do separately. It is a question of doing more work, and perhaps doing it in rather prompter and more systematic fashion. In regard to the question of the selection of the sets to be cataloged and the character of the entries to be made, there is some little difference of opinion. My own opinion is more in line with that of Mr. Baker: that the entries should contain full bibliographical information; that they should be available to perfect the ordering of reprints; and that in general they should take up all those serial publications which have separate title-pages.

Dr. Billings has given you his figures in very brief form. I may say they are almost identical with those obtained by me from carefully prepared estimates submitted by the printer of the John Crerar Library and by the branch of the Library Bureau in Chicago, which has expressed a desire to be allowed to compete. Both agree in putting the charge for printing, arranging, and mailing — but not for postage or express charges — at 15 cents per title. The cards are almost the same; one asks four cents; the other four and seven-tenths cents for two cards for each title of 10 lines. The postage may be estimated at one cent. It would seem better to begin with a small number of periodicals and work up; to take those which are strictly analytical and add to them such periodicals as are afterwards found to be desired by the libraries co-operating.

Three separate suggestions have been made for the printing. The original suggestion was that we should each employ our own printer and simply exchange cards. That would be simple, but there would be some danger of confusion of type, and of possible discrepancies in arrangement, so we decided to try to find some central printing office. The Boston Public Library is considering at present whether it will offer us facilities in its printing-room. Should it undertake the work for us, it would be in place of furnishing titles, and the cost to it is estimated at a very much lower sum than has been stated here, the work being done by linotype. The third proposition, which has only recently come up and of which Miss Browne will speak, is that the Publishing Section should do the work for us. If they do it, there will have to be some alterations made in the plan. They would want to make some compensation for the libraries which furnish titles, as against those which simply subscribe. However, I agree with Mr. Baker that this part of the subject is the one offering the fewest difficulties. The real question comes on the point whether the libraries are willing to sink minor differences; to waive minor points of opinion as to what is desirable; and, in this way, to secure a very much larger use of their periodical sets, and a very desirable increase in the efficiency of their cataloging work.

Miss N. E. BROWNE. — Dr. Billings stated in reply to a letter I wrote to him some time ago in regard to the Publishing Section's taking up this work, that he wished it to undertake the work so that other libraries might have the benefit of it. Mr. Lane, before leaving for Europe, obtained some estimates which were not satisfactory to him, although they do not vary much from those already given. Since his departure I have not been able to make any definite arrangement, but I have a letter from him, saying that when he returns he feels sure he will be able to make some arrangement by which the Publishing Section can do this work satisfactorily for the five libraries, and at the same time offer other libraries the privilege of selecting cards for the publications each library desires.

THORVALD SOLBERG. — If this work is done by the Publishing Section, has it taken into consideration how far private students will be allowed to subscribe for all titles relating to any particular subject or any particular number of subjects?

E. C. RICHARDSON. — That is a question that seems quite important in connection with how this work should be done. If it is done by exchanging among the different libraries themselves, it would be very difficult to take subscriptions from individuals or from other libra-

ries, as there would be new subscriptions coming in all the time. The Publishing Section would manage it in such a way that subscriptions could be received from any one, individual or library, for any number of the cards at reasonable cost.

W. J. JAMES. — Is it understood that these titles shall be printed on cards of a uniform size, or are they of various sizes, and will any copies be printed on thin paper?

C. W. ANDREWS. — The Boston Public Library is willing to waive its peculiar needs and accept the full-sized card of the A. L. A. We should print them in such a way that it would be perfectly possible to cut off the lower third and allow libraries that use that size to do so.

HERBERT FRIEDENWALD then delivered his remarks on

THE CARE OF MANUSCRIPTS.

(*See p.* 52.)

The Committee on Organization submitted the following:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION OF COLLEGE SECTION.

After consultation with the president of the Association, your Committee on Organization and Nomination beg leave to submit the following report:

To secure the best results in this branch of our discussions, it is deemed best to keep this branch organization of such a character that any member of the Association, who feels his work comes in this division, shall have the full privilege of taking part in the discussions of this Section.

To this end we have decided to nominate for your consideration a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to provide a suitable program for the next conference and to confer with the Executive Board or Program Committee of the Association to arrange for a proportionate place on the general program of the conference.

We would nominate for such a committee E. C. Richardson, G. W. Harris, W. E. Foster.

Also, since the committee has been requested to suggest a name for this Section, we would report that we can find no better name, which seems comprehensive enough to define the character of the topics to be discussed by this Section, than that already in use, viz., College and Reference Library Work.

WILLARD AUSTIN,
OLIVE B. JONES,
CLEMENT W. ANDREWS.

The report was adopted.

Owing to lack of time the paper by WILBERFORCE EAMES on

THE CARE OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

was read by title and ordered printed.

(*See p.* 48.)

Adjournment was taken at 11.40 a.m.

## TRUSTEES' SECTION OF THE A. L. A.

THE Trustees' Section held two meetings in connection with the Philadelphia conference. The first meeting was called to order in the auditorium of the Drexel Institute at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 23, by George A. Macbeth, chairman, E. H. Anderson being appointed secretary. There were present the following trustees:

Col. Weston Flint, Public Library, Washington, D. C.; J: M. Glenn, Mercantile Library, Baltimore, Md.; F. J. Hoag, Public Library, Toledo, O.; A. F. Hostetter, Normal School Library, Lancaster, Pa.; Hugh T. Kelly, Public Library, Toronto, Ont.; W. C. Kimball, Free Public Library, Passaic, N. J.; G. A. Macbeth, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.; T. Guilford Smith, University of the State of New York, Buffalo, N. Y.; Charles C. Soule, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.; C. W. Vandervort, Public Library, Peoria, Ill.

The following were present as librarians as well as trustees: E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Free Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Miss E. G. Browning, Public Library, Indianapolis, Ind.; A. C. Herzog, Free Public Library, Bayonne, N. J.; T. L. Montgomery, Free Libraries of Philadelphia.

On account of their experience and knowledge of A. L. A. affairs, and as representing the main body of the Association, the following were present at the invitation of the chairman: W. H. Brett, president; H. L. Elmendorf, vice-president; R. P. Hayes, secretary; Dr. J. S. Billings, F. M. Crunden, Melvil Dewey, W. I. Fletcher, and J. N. Larned.

The chairman briefly outlined the shadowy basis on which the Trustees' Section had been organized, with no definite purpose and no definite relation to the general Association. He stated that there was no use trying to get trustees, who were largely business men, to take an interest in and attend meetings of the Trustees' Section unless there was a definite object in view, and unless they could be, in some way, of real service in aiding the work of the general Association. It had occurred to him that there was one thing which the Trustees' Section could appropriately do, viz., raise money to carry on the work of the Publishing Section. He thought there ought to be a definite relation between these two sections, and that the Trustees' Section should be authorized by the A. L. A. to organize for some such specific purpose.

Mr. Soule began his remarks by emphasizing the fact that trustees ought to send their librarians to the A. L. A. meetings. He did not think trustees generally realized how important it was to a library that its librarian should attend these annual meetings, listen to the discussions and compare methods. He said that money was certainly needed for the Publishing Section, and the Trustees' Section could not do better than turn its energies in this direction. He thought money was also needed for a paid secretary of the A. L. A.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Fletcher, as representing the Publishing Section, to give an account of the work of that Section. Mr. Fletcher stated that the work consisted chiefly of co-operative cataloging and indexing, and mentioned the indexes and annotated catalogs which had been issued by the Section. He stated that the sales from publications did not cover the expense of issuing them, and it was necessary, if the work of the Section should go on, that they should have financial assistance from some quarter. He estimated that these catalogs and indexes saved at least two-thirds of the expense which would be involved if each library undertook to make them for its own use on cards, or otherwise. In other words, the Publishing Section saved a large amount of money for every library which bought its publications. He thought that its work should be subsidized by libraries or their trustees.

Mr. Smith suggested subscriptions, classified according to the size of the libraries.

Mr. Elmendorf said that libraries could aid the Publishing Section by taking more copies of its publications.

Mr. Larned spoke in favor of the establishing of a publication society, distinct from the A. L. A., somewhat after the manner of the publication societies in England.

Mr. Dewey advocated getting subscriptions from libraries, which he said was the method used for raising money for the Publishing Section in the beginning.

Mr. Flint spoke of the great saving to libraries from the co-operative work of the Publishing Section. Whenever you can show a trustee that he can save $10 by subscribing $1, he will do it every time. Trustees only need to know what is done and what can be done.

Mr. Kimball said that if you wanted money from trustees you must tell them exactly what it was wanted for. Mr. Kelly also spoke for definiteness; he said he was present as the representative of his board, and was expected to report what the Trustees' Section stood for.

Mr. Brett thought that next year each library should be urged to send a trustee as delegate to the A. L. A. conference. Mr. Crunden spoke for a special trustees' meeting, distinct from the A. L. A. meeting; he thought that trustees could raise money as librarians cannot. Mr. Elmendorf thought that more trustees ought to become members of the A. L. A.

Dr. Billings suggested that the practical thing to do was to call a special meeting of trustees — say in New York — next winter. Many of the trustees are away during the summer and cannot attend the regular A. L. A. meetings. He suggested that a committee be appointed at this meeting to arrange for a winter meeting.

Mr. Glenn said he wanted to meet when the librarians met, for he did not get much inspiration from the meetings of the Trustees' Section.

The chairman said we could not get trustees to meet without a specific purpose.

Mr. Soule moved that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to report a plan of action at a special meeting to be called the following afternoon. The motion was carried, and the chair appointed C. C. Soule, T. G. Smith, and J. M. Glenn.

Mr. Kimball then moved that adjournment be taken, the Section to meet the following afternoon at two o'clock, at the Aldine Hotel. *Voted.*

The adjourned meeting of the Section was held in one of the parlors of the Aldine Hotel, at two o'clock p.m., June 24.

There were present G. A. Macbeth, J. S. Billings, Weston Flint, C. C. Soule, W. C. Kimball, C. R. Vandervort, T. J. Hoag, H. T. Kelly, and Miss E. G. Browning. Mr. Macbeth occupied the chair, and Mr. Kelly was appointed secretary of the meeting.

Mr. Soule presented to the meeting the report of the sub-committee appointed on the previous day, and in accordance with the recommendation contained in that report it was decided to elect now a chairman of the Trustees' Section.

It was moved by Mr. Soule and seconded by Mr. Hoag that the Hon. T. Guilford Smith, of Buffalo, be chairman of this Section, and that he have power to appoint an executive committee of three or five persons (in his discretion) and a secretary. *Voted.*

It was moved by Mr. Soule and seconded by Mr. Kimball that a meeting of trustees be called by the chairman, to be held in New York in the coming winter. *Voted.*

The meeting then adjourned.

# THE SOCIAL SIDE OF THE CONFERENCE.

BY MARY P. FARR.

PHILADELPHIA was decked in her gayest attire on Monday, June 21, 1897; flags were flying from all her public buildings, and red, white, and blue bunting hung in festoons from the windows. Whether this was in honor of the A. L. A. or of the Saengerfesters, who arrived the same day, we do not say. The whole city was a whirl of bustle and excitement; strangers poured in from all parts of the country and scattered to all parts of the city. The Aldine Hotel was monopolized by the members of the A. L. A., who straggled in from early in the morning until the last minute before the reception of the evening.

Monday evening was one of those rare occasions on which the presence of ladies was permitted in the rooms of the exclusive Historical Society. The crowd soon filled the rooms to their utmost and overflowed into the small but quaint garden, radiant with Japanese lanterns hung in every conceivable spot. Here at every turn, in sheltered nooks and in corners of the piazza, one came upon groups of twos and threes, all chatting most energetically. New acquaintances were formed and old ones renewed. In vain we tried to remember the names, faces, and cities of every one we met. After a few brief addresses of welcome we were ushered into the library, where the high, massive bookcases made an impressive background for the resplendent feast set forth. Here tongues were let loose once again and the talking became more vigorous. In the wee sma' hours we parted with the feeling that we would see much of one another during the week, but alas! in the busy days that followed, in spite of the numerous social affairs, we met again only for a hurried word, but the remembrance of that first night will always be with us.

Tuesday evening's program was introduced with music at Horticultural Hall. As soon as the speeches of the evening were over, the floor was rapidly cleared for the dancing which followed. Much to our disappointment, however, that delightful two-step, "El Capitan," was played when the crowd was passing out, and there was no chance to dance; nevertheless, "a great deal of dancing was accomplished in a very small space."

Wednesday afternoon Chestnut street was the scene of a strange spectacle — coaches and vehicles of all sizes and description filled the street for blocks and blocks below the Aldine. People feared that a new show had come to invade the quiet of Chestnut street, and were relieved to find it was only "those librarians" going on a coaching party. We were aristocratic enough to boast three tally-hos, with bugles, gayly-colored parasols, and everything complete. Old omnibuses and picnic coaches were called into use. Two old horse-cars set on high wheels were borrowed from the Union Traction Company for the occasion.

This motley caravan wended its way through the streets of Philadelphia, followed by vociferous cheers from the urchins on the sidewalk. Along the River Drive of East Fairmount Park we passed and by the side of the Wissahickon Creek. Words are not needed to describe that drive when one sees the pictures the photographers took upon the occasion. Mr. Strawbridge had kindly invited us to take tea at his delightful home in Germantown. One of the drivers stupidly supposed that we wished to take the shortest cut there and led seven or eight coaches out of their way. Had it not been for the guidance of a member on a bicycle who discovered the mistake, a number of our party would have missed the prettiest parts of the Wissahickon drive. The whole caravan was soon drawn up before the Indian Rock Hotel, viewing the Indian but failing to see the rock. They were not together long, however, for again, owing to the stupidity of the driver, or perhaps the slowness of the horses this time, two portions of the party were lost in entirely different directions. One took a long circuit through Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill. To tell where the other portion wandered will be impossible, for they did not know themselves. Meantime the leaders of the van went on the right road, stopped at Wissahickon Inn by the way, and reached Mr. Strawbridge's residence in due season. Finally the two lost parties found

each other and reached Mr. Strawbridge's some time after the others arrived and too late to grace the picture for the frontispiece of the *Library Journal.* An appetizing supper was spread on the lawn in the most delightful and picturesque manner. The members of the A. L. A. put the finishing touches to this scene, a few glimpses of which our photographer has saved for us. A stroll was made through the grounds, and a visit was paid to the spotless stables where not a wisp of hay was out of place. After thanking Mr. and Mrs. Strawbridge for their hospitality we sought our carriages for the homeward journey, the highest seats being secured first.

A circuit of West Fairmount Park was made on the way home, passing through picturesque Chamounix and around Belmont Mansion. A pause was made in front of the mansion to view the park and city, which stretched out in a long vista beneath us. The coaches wound around Horticultural Hall and Memorial Hall, that all the party might have the pleasure of seeing the gardens there laid out.

A card was found in one of the tally-hos — we will not say whose name it bore lest the owner should claim it — with this inscription on the back:

> "Hip Hoo Ray
> Phil-a-del-phi-a!
> Twenty-first Annual
> A. L. A."

Eight o'clock was the time set for the concert of Wednesday evening. As the coaching party did not break up until that hour, no one reached the Drexel Institute until nine, and many much later. The music furnished by Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Moulton, and Mr. Kroeger was most enjoyable. A reception, with dancing in the central court, followed. These dissipations proved almost too much for one day's pleasure, and the festivities of the evening ceased at the early hour of 11.

The entire program of Thursday — which should have extended into the evening — was crowded into the day, so that the dignified A. L. A. might indulge in a trolley ride to Willow Grove Park. Staid and sober Chestnut street witnessed another gay scene on Thursday evening. The curbstone on either side of the street was lined with librarians patiently awaiting the arrival of the cars. A shout of joy went up from the crowd when "America," radiant within and without with red, white, and blue lights, turned the corner. Three other cars followed with no mark of distinction but the little sign "Special car." "Monitor," all decked in white, brought up the rear. It was a jolly party that whirled along the old York Road, causing much consternation among the horses and furnishing much amusement to the picnic parties that were on the return.

A rush was made to the merry-go-round on our arrival at the park. The "shoot-the-chutes," the biograph, the scenic railway soon held none but librarians. One young lady asked if some one would not please go in the biograph first and tell her if the pictures were proper for an A. L. A. member to gaze upon. We never heard whether that young lady saw the biograph afterwards, but we hope she did. A small but select few preferred the music of Damrosch to these frivolities. The electrical fountain assumed all sorts of fantastic shapes and variegated colors at the most unexpected intervals. Here and there a tree appeared dotted with many-colored lights, giving a fairy-like appearance to the scene. Everywhere the librarians found something new to enjoy until the arrival of our cars, which came all too soon. Nonsense verses and college songs thoroughly enlivened the journey home. Of jingles like the following, one car seemed to have a never-ending supply:

> "There was a young lady named Nell,
> Who considered herself quite a belle,
> She sat on the sand
> And squeezed her own hand
> And never discovered the sell."

Could the reading public but see that imposing organization, the American Library Association, on an occasion like this, they might be able to realize that librarians really know how to throw themselves into enjoyment with as much freedom and abandon as boys or girls.

Whenever we pass the Aldine we think of that too short happy week when the A. L. A. were our guests. The remembrance of those days, and the lively chats we held with librarians from the other end of the country, make us feel that Georgia and Louisiana, Montana and Colorado, are not so far away after all, while the "Librarians" corner of the *Library Journal*, and the "Notes by the way" of *Public Libraries*, still keep us in touch with them all.

# CATALOG OF BIBLIOGRAPHICAL EXHIBIT, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 21–25, 1897.

A SPECIAL collection of rare bindings, illuminated manuscripts, and other bibliographical treasures was gathered together under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Library Club. The exhibit was displayed by permission of the trustees of the Drexel Institute in the spacious rooms of that institution. A list of the interesting rarities thus collected by the officers of the library club is given below, as it is believed that a permanent record of the pieces displayed on that occasion will be of general interest.

## AMERICANA.

*From the Collection of the Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker.*

BARLOW, JOEL. The Columbiad: a poem. Philadelphia: Fry & Kammerer. 1807. 4to.
The finest specimen of American bookmaking up to that time.

BIBLIA, das ist: Die Heilige Schrift Altes und Neues Testaments. Germantown: Gedruckt bey Christoph Saur. 1743. 4to.
The first Bible printed in America in a European language.

BIBLE, The Holy, containing the Old and New Testaments. Philadelphia: Printed by R. Aitken. 1782. 2 vols., 12mo.
The first English Bible printed in America.

BRAGHT, T. J. van. Der Blutige Schau-Platz, oder Martyrer Spiegel der Tauffs-Gesinnten. Ephrata: Drucks und Verlags der Bruederschaft. 1748. Folio.
This is the celebrated Ephrata Martyr Book, "the greatest literary production of America," and the largest book issued from the Ephrata press.

CATALOGUE of all the books printed in the United States up to 1804. 12mo.
A very rare pamphlet. Of the titles here given, 335 were published at Philadelphia, 313 at Boston, and 189 at New York.

Ein CHRISTLICHES Gesang-Buch. Manuscript. 1760. Folio.
The hymn-book of the Schwenkfelders is the best specimen of their manuscripts known to those familiar with the subject. It was written by one of their ministers, Hoffman, between 1758 and 1760, in Pennsylvania, and was bound there.

Ein GEISTLICHES Magazien. Germantown: Gedruckt bey Christoph Saur. 1764. 8vo.
Nos. 1 to 50 of the earliest American religious magazine, containing the earliest American essay upon school teaching.

HYMN-Book from the Ephrata Cloister. Manuscript. 1745. Folio.
A beautifully written and illuminated manuscript volume, containing the music to the "Weyrauchs-Hügel," *infrà*. One of the latest specimens of manuscript illumination.

LAWS of the Province of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia: Printed by Andrew Bradford. 1728. Folio.
The second compilation of the Laws of Pennsylvania. The interest of this book is enhanced by the blank leaves inserted by the original owner, which are of paper made at the Rittenhouse paper-mill on the Wissahickon, the first in America.

LINCOLN, Abraham. Ms. fee-book of the firm of Lincoln & Herndon, 1847.

MUHLENBERG, Frederick Augustus. Original ms. of an unpublished book. Folio.
F. A. Muhlenberg was President of the First Congress of the U. S.

PAMPHLETS on Electricity. Collection of four pamphlets on electricity. 8vo.
This is Benjamin Franklin's own collection, and the titles are indexed on the fly-leaf in his own handwriting. The pamphlets are filled with references to Franklin's discoveries, and one of the pamphlets was presented to him by the author, who calls him "Father of electricity."

PARADISISCHES Wunder-Spiel. Ephratæ: Sumptibus Societatis. 1754. Folio.
This Paradisiacal Wonder Play is a hymn-book of the Ephrata cloister, containing 726 hymns of a very mystical character, of which 441 were written by Johann Conrad Beissel (1690–1768), who organized the sect of Seventh-day Baptists, and subsequently the semi-monastic "Order of the Solitary," at Ephrata, about twenty miles from Reading, Pennsylvania. The text begins on the reverse of the title, each page containing usually six lines of type, every two lines being divided by spaces of three inches, which are occupied by manuscript musical notes for four voices. The end of each musical phrase is marked by more or less elaborate penwork in two or three colors, amounting sometimes to an illumination, generally in the shape of a floral design. This was the work of sisters of the society specially appointed for that duty. See the *Weyrauchs-Hügel, infrà*.

PASTORIUS, Franz Daniel. Disputatio inauguralis de Rasura Documentorum — pro Licentia Summos in utroque jure Honores ac Privilegia Doctoralia more Majorum rite capessendi d. 23, Nov. 1676. Altorffi. 8vo.
Thesis submitted by Pastorius, the founder of Germantown, in order to obtain the degree of "Juris Utrusque Licentiatus." This is the only copy known to exist.

PLOCKHOY, PIETER CORNELISZ. Kort en klaer ontwerp dienende tot een onderling Accoort, om den arbeyd, onrust en moeyelijckheyt, van Alderley-hand-wercxs-luyden te verlichten door een onderlinge Compagnie ofte Volck-planting . . . aen de Zuyt-revier in Nieu-neder-land op te rechten. . . . 'tAmsterdam, 1662. 4to, 8 leaves.
"A short and clear project of a mutual agreement in order to relieve the colony to be founded on the South River in New Netherland." The only copy in this country of this very rare tract, which is the first book written by a colonist on the Delaware. Plockhoy's colony was destroyed by the English in 1664.

WASHINGTON, George. Autograph and bookplate, on Some observations on the Indian natives of this continent, Philadelphia, 1784, (with other pamphlets.)

WEYRAUCHS-HÜGEL, Zionitischer. Germantown: Gedruckt bey Christoph Saur, 1739. 16mo.

The first book printed in German type in America, and the first *book* from Saur's press. It is the largest and most important collection of the Ephrata Cloister hymns, and is dedicated "To all solitary Turtle-doves cooing in the wilderness, as a spiritual harp, playing in the many tunes of divine visitation." This was the author's own copy. For the music to these hymns see Paradisisches Wunder-Spiel, *suprà*.

BINDINGS.

*Lent by Samuel P. Avery, Esq., of New York.*

Dichtkundige ALMANACH voor het jaar 1781. Te Amsterdam. 32mo.

A fine example of needlework binding of the end of the 18th century.

Nieuwe Nederlandsche ALMANACH, 1795. Utrecht. 32mo.

Full silver binding, with the number of days in each month, times of rising and setting of the sun, etc., engraved on the sides, and a dial with movable hand to show the day of the month.

Vita, e Miracoli di S. ANTONIO di Padova. Genova, 1646. 12mo.

A good example of panelled binding on solid wooden boards.

Speculum beati BERNHARDI Abbatis de honestate vite. [Probably printed by Fust & Schoeffer, *circa* 1465.] 12mo.

The binding of this rare tract is a very good specimen of modern blind-tooling, by Pagnant, full brown crushed morocco.

BURTY, Philippe. Les émaux cloisonnés. Paris, 1868. 12mo.

Bound by Ch. Meunier in full brown morocco, in the covers of which have been inlaid two cloisonné medallions by the author. The margins and blank leaves are decorated with many original water-colors by Félix Régamey.

CHRONIQUES françoises de Jacques Gondar. Paris, n. d. [*circa* 1830.] 12mo.

A charming reprint of a 15th century ms., with colored illustrations in imitation of the manuscript decorations of the time. The binding is stamped velvet, "romantique," of the same date as the book.

CICERO. Cato Major. Lutetiæ, 1758. 32mo.

Bound by Stikeman & Co., New York. A beautiful specimen of American mosaic work in red and blue, with white vellum doublé, gilt tooling throughout.

A HELPE vnto Deuotion. London, 1613. 16mo.

Full calf binding of the time, gauffred edges.

HUMPHREYS, H. N. Sentiments and similes of Shakespeare. London, 1857. 8vo.

A curious moulded composition-binding, first made in England about this date.

LA FRESNAIE Vavqvelin, Les Diverses Poesies du Sievr de. Caen, 1612.

A fine example of this edition. Bound by Trautz-Bauzonnet in full crushed morocco, blue, with red doublé, gilt tooling.

LUCRETIUS. De rerum natura. Lugduni, 1546. 16mo.

Inlaid binding of the period.

LUTHER, Martin. Von den Jüden und jren Lügen. Wittemberg, 1543. Etc. Sm. 4to.

A collection of tracts by Martin Luther. In binding of the time, with solid wooden boards, blind-tooling.

MS. case, metal, for prayer-books, etc., *Byzantine.*

4x3 inches. With repoussé figures of St. George and another Saint, the double-headed eagle of the empire with globe and cross above, etc.

MELISANDER, Caspar. Christliches Beicht- und Communion-Büchlein. Nürnberg, 1689. 12mo.

A beautiful example of German needlework binding of the end of the 17th century, with two clasps formed of small silver crucifixes.

MELLIN de S. Gelais. Oevvres Poëtiqves. A Lyon, 1574. 12mo.

Bound by Capé in full red crushed morocco, hand-tooling in gilt.

MEMORANDUM-BOOK, blank. 32mo.

Engraved silver perforated binding, with miniature inserted in one cover.

Das ganze NEUE TESTAMENT. Zürich, 1752. 12mo.

Silver open-work binding, engraved, with clasps.

Das ganze NEUE TESTAMENT. Zürich, 1778. 12mo.

Another silver binding, gilt, with clasps, engraved and repoussé work throughout.

POLZMANN, Balthasar. Compendium vitæ, miraculorum S. Leopardi, sexti Marchionis Austriæ. 1591. 8vo.

In the original binding, with the arms of the Margraves of Austria on one cover and the double-headed eagle of the Holy Roman Empire on the other.

The Whole Booke of PSALMES. London, 1643. 32mo.

Embroidered in silk and gold by the Nuns of Little Gidding, so well known to all students of King Charles I.'s reign. The Protestant Nunnery of Little Gidding was founded by Mr. Nicholas Ferrar; see Shorthouse's "John Inglesant." This is an uncommonly fine specimen of their needlework.

SAINT-Pierre, Bernardin de. Paul et Virginie. Paris, 1876. 12mo.

Bound by Marius Michel in mosaic of three colors, blue, red, and yellow, gilt tooling, with doublé of crushed blue levant.

The SEA Book: a nautical repository. London. [circa 1840.] 8vo.

With many illustrations by Turner, engraved on steel. A most curious mosaic binding by Bedford, in long narrow strips extending from cover to cover, of about eight distinct colors or shades, elaborately hand-tooled in gilt.

TENNYSON, Alfred. Poems. London, 1833. 12mo.

The third published volume of Tennyson's poems. In a beautiful and characteristic binding by Cobden-Sanderson, in full brown crushed levant, gilt tooling.

TREMELLIUS, Immanuel. In Hoseam interpretatio. Heidelberg, 1563. 12mo.

Tooled binding of the period, with the arms of Frederick, Duke Palatine.

Catalogue of editions of WALTON & Cotton's Angler. New York: The Grolier Club. 1893. 12mo.

Bound in green Japanese shark-skin, with border of the skin of the Florida gar-pike, with a very hard and highly-polished surface like enamel. Bound by Tiffany & Co., New York. The book-mark has a jade-stone fish for pendant.

WOHLRIECHENDES Rozengärtl. Kempten, 1699. 16mo.

A silver binding, with one clasp, by Thellot, of Augsburg.

CRUIKSHANKIANA.

*From the Collection of the Rittenhouse Club.*

BOMBASTES furioso: a burlesque tragic opera, by William Barnes Rhodes; with designs by Cruikshank. London, 1830. 16mo.

The BOTTLE, in eight plates, by George Cruikshank. London, 1847. Folio.
The first of his temperance series.

The CAT'S tail: being the history of Childe Merlin. By the Baroness de Katzleben. Edinburgh, 1831. 16mo.
Etchings by Cruikshank.

The COMIC Almanac, 1835–1853. London. 6 vols. 12mo.
Profusely illustrated by Cruikshank.

The COMIC Alphabet. London. n. d.

CRUIKSHANKIANA: an assemblage of the most celebrated works of George Cruikshank. London. n. d. Folio.
Caricatures in his earlier, Gillray style.

The DRUNKARD'S Children: a sequel to The Bottle, in eight plates. London, 1848.

EGAN, Pierce. Life in London. London, 1822. 8vo.
With many colored plates "drawn and engraved by I. R. and G. Cruikshank."

Sir John FALSTAFF: 20 etchings by Cruikshank. London, 1857. 8vo.

Der FREISCHÜTZ Travestie; with 12 etchings by Cruikshank. London, 1824. 8vo.

GREENWICH Hospital: a series of naval sketches descriptive of the life of a man-of-war's man; with coloured illustrations by George Cruikshank. London, 1826. 4to.

GRIMM'S Popular Stories; with etchings by Cruikshank. London, 1823. 4to.

GUY Fawkes: 19 etchings by Cruikshank.

The HORSE-shoe: the true legend of St. Dunstan and the Devil, by Edward G. Flight; with drawings by Cruikshank. London, n. d. 12mo.

ILLUSTRATIONS of Time. London, 1827. Obl. folio.

JERROLD, Blanchard. Life of George Cruikshank. New York, 1882. 2 vols. 12mo.

The LOVING Ballad of Lord Bateman. London, 1851. With etchings by Cruikshank.
The ballad was written by Charles Dickens.

The MISER'S Daughter, by Cruikshank. London, 1842.
A series of 19 etched plates.

MORNINGS at Bow Street, by J. Wright, with 21 illustrations by George Cruikshank. London, 1838. 12mo.

ODDS and Ends: a collection of Cruikshank's drawings. 15 plates, folio. n. d.

The POLITICAL house that Jack built. With 13 cuts. 50th ed. London, 1820.
A political satire of the day by Cruikshank.

George Cruikshank's OMNIBUS. London, 1842. 8vo.

PETER Schlemihl: from the German of Adalbert von Chamisso by Sir John Bowring; with plates by Cruikshank. London, 1861. 12mo.

A POP-gun fired off by George Cruikshank in defence of the British Volunteers of 1803. London, n. d. 8vo.

PUNCH and Judy; with illustrations drawn and engraved by George Cruikshank. London, 1828. 12mo.

The QUEEN'S Matrimonial Ladder. London, 1820. 8vo.
A satire on the trial of Queen Caroline, published on her side and against the king.

REID, George Wm. Descriptive catalogue of the works of George Cruikshank. London, 1871. 3 vols., 4to.

SCRAPS and Sketches of George Cruikshank. London, 1827. Obl. folio.

TOM Thumb: a burletta, altered from Henry Fielding by Kane O'Hara; with designs by George Cruikshank. London, 1837. 16mo.

The TOOTHACHE, imagined by Horace Mayhew and realized by George Cruikshank. London, n. d. 12mo.

## GREEK AND LATIN CLASSICS.

*From the Collection of Ashhurst Bowie, dec'd, now the property of R. H. Bayard Bowie, Esq.*

ÆLIANUS, Claudius. Variæ Historiæ. Romæ, 1545. 4to.
A large-paper copy of the editio princeps. According to Dr. Harwood, "This first edition contains several Greek authors that were never reprinted." Harles calls it "A rare edition and not to be despised."

ÆLIANUS Tacticus. De militaribus ordinibus instituendis more Græcorum. Venetiis, apud Spinellos, 1552. Sm. 4to.
The first separate edition, although printed in 1532 at Paris by Vascosan at the end of Thomas Magister. This 1552 edition is much the better, and has many curious woodcuts.

ÆSCHINES Socraticus. Dialogi tres. Amstelodami, 1711.
These dialogues "are not genuine remains." Athenæus in the Deipnosophists (book xiii., c. 94) gives Æschines a terribly bad character, and charges that Xantippe, after the death of Socrates, gave some of her husband's writings to Æschines, who coolly put them forth under his own name.

ÆSCHYLUS. Tragœdiæ. Paris: Henricus Stephanus. 1557. 4to.
The fourth edition of Æschylus, but Dibdin calls it "An excellent and beautiful edition, and much more valuable than any of the preceding." As many as 1275 verses of the "Agamemnon" were printed for the first time in this edition from a manuscript.

ÆSOPUS. Fabulæ. Basileæ: Frobenius. 1518.
Froben was a learned German printer and warm personal friend of Erasmus, all of whose works he printed. The title-page and device to the colophon are designed by Holbein. For another copy of these designs see "Agapetus," also printed by Froben in this same year, 1518.

ÆSOPUS. Fabulæ. Parmæ. 1547.
This copy belonged to the celebrated Libri, and was sold with the choicer portion of his library in London in 1859.

ÆSOPUS. Fabulæ; with reflections by M. le Chevalier Lestrange. Amstelodami: Roger. 1714.

AGAPETUS, St. Letter (in Greek and Latin) to the Emperor Justinian. Basileæ: Frobenius. 1518.
The title-page and colophon are engraved by Holbein. See the same designs in Æsop, 1518. This is a rare book. It is one of two extant letters from St. Agapetus before he became Pope in 535 A.D. He refused to acknowledge the orders of the Arians.

AGATHIAS. Historia Justiniani Imperatoris; accesserunt Agathiæ Epigrammata. Lugduni Batavorum: Plantin. 1594.

This unfinished history contains many important facts concerning one of the most eventful periods of Roman history. This copy has a Latin translation and is the editio princeps in Greek.

APPIANUS. Romanæ Historiæ. Paris: Carolus Stephanus. 1551. Folio.

Editio princeps in Greek; from two mss. in the library of the King of France. "According to Chevillier, C. Stephens published but two works in the Greek language—the present edition of Appian and a 4to Greek testament. The name of Charles Stephens does not often occur in bibliography, and those who cherish scarce works will do well to treasure the productions of this elegant scholar and printer."—*Dibdin, Gr. and Lat. Class.*

APULEIUS. Commentary on the Metamorphoses or Golden Ass of Apuleius of Madaura. Deventer: Richard Paffraet. 1511.

ARISTOPHANES. Comœdiæ. Florentiæ: Junta. 1515.

The second edition of Aristophanes, but the first to contain *Lysistrata* and *Thesmophoriazusæ*, which were omitted in the editio princeps by Aldus, 1498.

ARISTOTELES. Cyromancia. Ulm, 1490.

A treatise on chiromancy, or divination by the hand.

ATHENÆUS. Deipnosophistæ. Venetiis: Aldus. 1514. Folio.

Editio princeps. A beautiful book and one of the scarcest of the Aldine classics, although with many errors and imperfections from a critical point of view.

BELLUM et excidium Trojanum. Lipsiæ: Michael Rudiger. 1699.

This "war and destruction of Troy" is curiously illustrated, as may be seen from an inspection of the plate concerning the wooden horse, and Sinon the Greek who deluded the Trojans into drawing the horse into the city. Cassandra, whose prophecies were disregarded, and Priam looking on her as a mad woman and causing her to be locked up in prison, should be considered.

BŒTHIUS. De Arithmetica. Augsburg, 1488.

Editio princeps, and a book of extreme scarcity. It is generally described as printed at Venice, but the colophon explains that the printing was by Ratdolt, formerly of Venice and later of Augsburg. Dibdin gives the date as 1487.

CATO, Dionysius. Moralissimus Cato cum elegantissimo commento. Basileæ, 1486.

This work has been attributed to various great authors, Seneca, Boethius, etc. It is quoted by Chaucer, was translated by Caxton, and if it may be called a "classic" Franklin's edition, 1735, Englished by Logan, must be regarded as the first translation of a classic which was both made and printed in the American Colonies.

HORATIUS. Opera; cum commentario Landini. Venetiis, 1486.

Landinus was a learned critic, and his commentary on Horace is highly esteemed. The editio princeps is supposed to have been printed at Milan by Zarotus in 1740.

JUSTINUS Frontinus. Des Hochberümptesten Geschicht Schreybers Justini. Augsburg, 1531.

The earliest German version of Justinus.

JUVENALIS et Persius. Satyræ. Mediolani: A. Zarothus. 1474. Folio.

A very large copy of this extremely rare edition, with ms. notes, and bound in old gilt russia, with the Wodhull arms in gold on the side.

NEPOS, Cornelius. De vita excellentium imperatorum. Venetiis: Nicolaus Jenson. 1471. 4to.

Editio princeps, published under the name of Æmilius Probus. A very scarce and curious edition, according to Dibdin.

PETRONIUS Arbiter. Satyrici fragmenta quæ extant. Venetiis: Bernardinus de Vitalibus. 1499.

Very rare, but not the first edition, although formerly supposed to be so. The real editio princeps is at the end of the Panegyricus of Pliny the younger, 1476.

PHALARIS, Tyrant of Agrigentum. Epistolæ. Oxonii, 1695.

These Epistles have been proved spurious, but their publication by Boyle led to a literary battle royal, splendidly described in Disraeli's "Quarrels of authors." Bentley denied their authenticity, and had some personal feelings besides, although Boyle never himself asserted their genuineness and repudiated Bentley's denial as an insult.

PHALARIS. Epistole. [Parma,] 1471.

The Epistles translated into Italian by B. Fontio. A rare and beautiful copy, with rubricated capitals.

PINDARUS. Olympia, Pythia, Nemea, Isthmia; Callimachi Hymni; Dionysius de Situ Orbis, etc. Venetiis: Aldus Manutius. 1513.

Editio princeps. The preface by Aldus is very interesting, giving a sketch of the war that ravaged Italy and suspended his typographical labors, with a review of what he had already done and a sketch of his probable future efforts. He says he had already exercised the art of printing twenty years, which would show that he began about 1493. The pagination of this book is unusual, being on right-hand corners of the verso pages.

PLAUTUS. Comici classici comediæ . . . [Paris: printed by G. Le Rouge for] D. Roce. n. d. 2 vols. in 1. 8vo.

This edition is "of extraordinary rarity." Besides the device of D. Roce each volume bears the red fleur-de-lis of the Giuntas. It is the rarest of the Aldine and Giunta counterfeits, and is not mentioned by Renouard.

PLAUTUS. Comœdiæ. Mediolani: Uldericus Scinzenzeler. 1490.

PLAUTUS. The "Menæchmi" and "Bacchides" translated into German. Augsburg, 1518.

PLINIUS Cæcilius Secundus. Epistolæ. Mediolani: P. de Lavagna. 1478. Folio.

The fourth edition, according to Dibdin, and one of very few printed in the 15th century.

SALLUSTIUS. Opera. Venetiis: Aldus. 1521.

The second and best of the Aldine editions of Sallust. This copy came from the library of the crusty satirical poet Du Lorens (1583–1655), and contains his autograph. He was renowned for his reckless extravagance, fine library, collection of pictures, satirical verses, and quarrels with his wife, for whom, on her death, he composed the well-known epitaph:

"Ci gît ma femme. Ah! qu'elle est bien
Pour son repos et pour le mien!"

TERENTIUS. Comœdiæ. Venetiis: Lazarus Soardus. 1511.

A very scarce edition, "A book which," Dr. Askew says, "may be numbered among the most rare." Besides the comedies of Terence it contains "Vict. Faustus de Comœdiâ; et Benedict Philologus de Terentii Comœdiis."

GROLIER CLUB PUBLICATIONS.

*Lent by Carl Edelheim, Esq.*

BURY, Richard de. Philobiblon. 3 vols. New York: The Grolier Club. 1889.

CONTRIBUTIONS to English bibliography: Catalogue of original and early editions of some of the poetical and prose works of English writers from Langland to Wither. Printed at New York for The Grolier Club. 1893.

CONWAY, Moncure Daniel. Barons of the Potomack and the Rappahannock. New York: The Grolier Club. 1892.

CURTIS, George William. Washington Irving: a sketch. New York: The Grolier Club. 1891.

DECREE of the Starre-Chamber concerning printing made the eleventh day of July, 1637. Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, 1637. Reprinted by The Grolier Club. 1884.

A DESCRIPTION of the early printed books owned by The Grolier Club; with a brief account of their printers and the history of typography in the fifteenth century. New York: The Grolier Club. 1895.

DONNE, John. Poems, from the text of the edition of 1633. Revised by James Russell Lowell, with introduction and notes by Charles Eliot Norton.

DÜRER, Albert. Chronological catalogue of the engravings, dry-points and etchings of, as exhibited by The Grolier Club. New York: The Grolier Club. 1897.

IRVING, Washington. Knickerbocker's History of New York. Printed for The Grolier Club, New York. 1886.

MASON'S Mechanical Exercises: the doctrine of handy-works applied to the art of printing. 2 vols. New York: The Typothetæ of the City of New York. 1896.

MILTON, John. Areopagitica: a speech of Mr. John Milton for the liberty of unlicensed printing to the Parliament of England; with an introduction by James Russell Lowell. New York: printed by The Grolier Club. 1890.

NEW YORK. Laws and Acts of the General Assembly for their Majesties' Province of New York. Printed and sold by William Bradford at New York. 1694. Reprinted for The Grolier Club.

READE, Charles. Peg Woffington. 2 vols. Printed for The Grolier Club. 1887.

RUBAIYÁT of Omar Khayyám, the astronomer-poet of Persia. Printed for The Grolier Club. 1885.

KELMSCOTT PRESS ISSUES.

*Lent by Carl Edelheim, Esq.*

CAXTON, William. The History of Godfrey of Boloyne and of the Conquest of Jerusalem. Kelmscott Press. April, 1893.

CAXTON, William. The History of Reynard the Foxe. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. December, 1892.

CHAUCER. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. 1896.

Bound in full vellum, blind-tooling, at the Doves Bindery, 1897.

The FLOURE and the Leaf, and the Boke of Cupide, God of Love, and the Cuckow and the Nightingale. Printed at the Kelmscott Press by William Morris. August, 1896.

The GOLDEN Legend. Kelmscott Press.

HERRICK, Robert. Poems chosen from the works of; edited by F. S. Ellis from the text of the edition of 1648. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. November, 1895.

KEATS, John. Poems. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. March, 1894.

MEINHOLD, William. Sidonia the Sorceress; translated by Francesca Speranza, Lady Wilde. Kelmscott Press. September, 1893.

MORRIS, William. Child Christopher and Goldiling the fair. Kelmscott Press.

— The Defence of Guenevere, and other poems. Kelmscott Press. April, 1892.

— A Dream of John Ball and A King's lesson. Printed on vellum at the Kelmscott Press. May, 1892.

— The Earthly Paradise. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. May, 1896.

— Life and death of Jason. Kelmscott Press. May, 1895.

— News from nowhere; or, an epoch of rest. Printed at the Kelmscott Press by the author. November, 1892.

— Poems by the way. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. September, 1891.

— The Story of the glittering plain which has also been called the Land of living men or the Acre of the undying. Kelmscott Press. January, 1894.

— The Well at the world's end. Kelmscott Press. March, 1896.

— The Wood beyond the world. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. May, 1894.

The RECUYELL of the Historyes of Troye. Kelmscott Press.

ROSSETTI, Dante Gabriel. Sonnets and lyrical poems. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. February, 1894.

SHELLEY, Percy Bysshe. Poetical works. Printed at the Kelmscott Press.

SWINBURNE, Algernon Charles. Atalanta in Calydon: a tragedy. Kelmscott Press. May, 1894.

The TALE of Beowulf. Printed at the Kelmscott Press. January, 1895.

MEDICAL INCUNABULA AND RARITIES.

*From the Collection of J. Stockton Hough, M.D., Trenton, New Jersey.*

ÆMILIUS, Macer. De Virtutibus Herbarum. 1477.

BRUNSCHWIG. Liber pestilentialis de venenis epidemie. Das buch der vergift der pestiletz das da genat ist der gemein sterbent der Trüsen Blatren. von Jeronimo bruswig. Strassburg, 1500.

Small folio, with 23 woodcuts. A very rare book.

CANDIDUS, Petrus. De genitura hominis. Rome [circa 1490].

One of the first, if not the first, work of the Middle Ages on generation.

CAULIAC. Chirurgia. 1500.
With 211 cuts of surgical instruments of Albucasis. The earliest book with plates on surgical instruments.

CHAMPER, Symphorien of Lyons. 1506.
First edition of the first medical biography and bibliography, and the only known copy in this country. Champer was author of 125 treatises on medicine, chivalry, and history, 105 of which were printed 1498–1534.

The GOUERNAYLE of Helthe; reprinted from Caxton's edition of circa 1491, by William Blades. London, 1858. Sm. 8vo.
Facsimile reprint of the first English medical book.

[GRAPHEUS, or] Grassis, Benevenutus. De oculis. [Colophon:] Sever[inus] Ferrar[iensis] F[eliciter] F[initur] [mcccclxx] iiii.
A first edition of the first independent treatise on the eye. An extremely rare book, much sought after by collectors.

GRUENPECK, Josephus. [Not later than 1497.]
Mainly copied from Sebastian Brandt, to whom a Eulogium is prefixed. The title-page shows a cadaver with pustular eruption. The disease is described from the writer's experience. Gruenpeck was Secretary to Maximilian I., who is shown in attitude of intercession to B. V. M.

[H]ORTUS Sanitatis de herbis et plantis. [Circa 1490.]
The first edition; one of several undated editions. This is one of the two great picture-books of the 15th century, containing nearly 1000 woodcuts. It was frequently reprinted but seldom in good condition. It contains one of the earliest illustrations of the human skeleton.

ISAAC, Judæus. De particularibus diætis. Printed by Cerdonis de Windischgratz, 1487.
An exceedingly rare book, the first edition of the first book printed on diet. The author was an Egyptian Israelite, an eye-doctor, who lived 830–941 A.D.

JUNG, Ambrosius. De pestilentia. Printed by Johannes Schönsperger, 1494.

KAMIUTUS. Regimen contra pestilentiam. Sm. 8vo. n.p. n.d.

KETHAM, Johannes de. Fasciculus de Medicina. 1508.
This is a collection of treatises brought together by Ketham, and is the most sought after of any medical work of the 15th century. The only known copy of the first edition (1491) is in the Boston Medical Library, and of this edition, the sixth, but one other copy is known to exist, in the Public Library of Venice. It is the first book with anatomical plates, which are by Mantegna or one of his pupils.

MALDURUS, Petrus Ludovicus. Vita Sancti Rochi.
St. Roch, who lived about 1300 A.D., is the patron saint of the sick in hospitals or sufferers from the plague. The frontispiece shows St. Roch in the wilderness attended by the angel who daily dressed his wounds, and met by his dog who brought him every day a loaf of bread from the city.

NICOLAUS Leonicensis. De epidemia, etc. Venice: Aldus Manutius. 1497.
An important treatise, and one of a number of medical books published by Aldus in 1497.

PEYLIGK, Johannes. Philosophia Nat. comp. et decl. Printed by M. Lotter, Lipsiæ, 1499.
First edition of the first book published with anatomical plates of individual organs of the body. A very curious, little known, and most rare work. There is but one other copy known in this country, which is in the Surgeon-General's Library at Washington.

QUESTIONES naturales antiquorum philosophorum. Colonia: impressum per Cornelium de Zyrychzee. n. d.

REISCH, Gregorovius. Margarita philosophica. Printed by J. Schottus. Friburg, 1503.
First edition. A handbook of natural and moral philosophy in dialogue form, largely illustrated. The notes of music are among the earliest of musical typography.

SERENUS Sammonicus. Carmen medicinæ. [circa 1486.]
The only extant poem of this voluminous and very early writer. In it is found the first mention of the amulet charm Abracadabra as a remedy against intermittent fever. From the Sunderland library, and the only copy in this country.

SIMON Genuensis. Synonyma. Printed by Zarotus: Milan, 1473.
First edition of the first medical dictionary.

RARE VOLUMES.

*Lent by Clarence H. Clark, Esq.*

BIBLE. The Books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel I. and II., together with commentary of Don Isaak Ahravanel. Printed in Hebrew on parchment at Pesaro, 1521.

BIVERO, Juan Salvador de. Phelippe II. and III. Carta executoria de hidalguia a pedimente de Juan Salvador de Bivero: (1593–1603). Small folio.
Very choice ms. charter of nobility, on vellum written within borders of gold. It contains fifty-one sheets of vellum and has twenty-seven large initial letters, variously illuminated, with four full-page illuminations, besides numerous capital letters.

BLANC, Le Sieur. Histoire de Bavière. Paris: Chez la Veuve Mille de Beaujeu. 1680. 4 vols. 12mo.
This work comes from the Crécy library. Each volume bears the Pompadour arms on the upper and lower covers. The curious frontispiece to Vol. I. is the Baptism of Theodore, Prince of Bavaria, by St. Rupert.

BREVIARVM Antiqvvm. An illuminated quarto manuscript breviary, written in the 15th century.
Many of the large illuminated capital letters are historiated, and include figures of the saints, etc. This manuscript formerly belonged to one of the Popes, but his arms have been defaced on the covers.

BURY, Richard de. The Philobiblon. New York: The Grolier Club. 1889. 3 vols. Small 4to.
This is the earliest book on bibliography by an English writer, the first printed edition of which was published in 1473. This reprint is one of an edition of 300 copies only, and the three volumes have been bound by different binders.
Vol. I., containing the original Latin text, is in whole brown levant morocco, blind-tooled with a 16th century pattern, with doublé in garnet morocco with gold tooling in the Grolier style; bound by Marius Michel.
Vol. II. contains the English text and is bound in red morocco, with the arms of the Grolier Club; the doublé of blue morocco, with border of leaves in gold. The binders were Lortic frères.
Vol. III., containing the notes, etc., is in whole brown levant morocco, with doublé in garnet morocco, and decorated with old tools found at the palace of San Donato. Bound by Gruel and Engelmann.

CUNNINGHAM, Peter. The story of Nell Gwynn. New York, 1883.
At page 122 is inserted an original autograph of Nell Gwynn; not more than ten or twelve of her autographs are known. She could not sign her name in full, but was content with "E. G." It is attached to a power of attorney granted by Ellinor Gwyn to James Frazier, duly sealed and delivered by the famous beauty, and dated June 1, 1680.

DIBDIN, Thomas Frognall. Reminiscences of a literary life. London, 1836. 2 vols. in 3.

This is a large-paper copy of the first edition, of which only 39 copies were printed of this size. It has been extra illustrated, and is opened where in Vol. III. there has been inserted an original ms. covering ten sides of letter-paper, by Robert Southey, describing the genealogy and characteristics of those family pets, "The Cats of Greta Hall." This is dated Keswick, June 18, 1824, and is written to his daughter, Edith May, who afterwards married the Rev. John Wood Warter, who published them in the appendix to his last volume of "Southey's Life and Letters" from a rough draft found by Mr. Warter.

DRYDEN, John. Fables. London, 1797. Folio.

A unique volume, being the only copy of this edition printed on vellum. It it illustrated by numerous engravings, after designs by Lady Diana Beauclerc, executed by Bartolozzi, and printed on satin, of which the impressions in this book are the proofs. It was acquired from the library of Prince Galitzin, of Russia.

DUMAS, Alexandre. L'invitation à la valse: comédie en un acte et en prose.

Original manuscript of Alex. Dumas, *père*, with autograph letter of Alex. Dumas, *fils*.

DÜRER, Albert. Passio Christi. 1511.

This series of 37 engravings, first published in book form in 1511, is known as "The Little Passion," to distinguish it from the series of larger size on the same subject called the "Great Passion." All the plates are signed "A. D." and four are dated, two 1510 and two 1509. This set of the prints, which is unbound, is from two editions, but mainly from that of 1511, the most sought after. A complete set is of rare occurrence.

FIRDAUSI, Abu'l Cásim Mansur. Shah Nameh. 541 leaves. Folio.

A fine illuminated Persian manuscript copy of the "Book of Kings," transcribed in four columns on yellow paper, within lines of gold. It is a history of Persia, composed about 950 A.D., in nearly 60,000 verses, and was thirty years in composition. At page 111 is an illustration of the game of polo. The poem contains a very full account of this "game of ball," which seems to have had a very early adoption in Persia. This copy was written by Alijân Ibni Haidar Vili of Hurr in A.H. 1011 (1603 A.D.). It is considered a splendid specimen of Persian writing.

GRAMMONT, Comte de. Mémoires du Comte de Grammont par le C. Antoine Hamilton. London, 1794. Extended from 1 to 3 vols. Folio.

This is an extra-illustrated copy of these memoirs. Only five copies were printed, on atlas-size paper, two of which have been destroyed and two are in the British Museum and Bodleian libraries. The extra-illustrations were collected by Mr. Richard Bull, of the Isle of Wight, to whose family many autograph letters of King Charles II. were bequeathed by "a friend and descendant" of Mr. Secretary Morice, the confidant of the king. There are two holograph letters of Charles II. inserted, one (on three pages of small letter paper) dated Bruxelles, April 8, 1660, which is referred to in Thurloe's State Papers, vol. 7, p. 858; and the other, a celebrated one (on five pages of small letter paper), dated Breda, May 20, 1660, written by the king only nine days before the Restoration. Both are signed "Charles R." and detail the steps to be taken by General Monk and others to help forward Charles' return to his kingdom.

Entry of HENRI II. of France into the city of Rouen. Rouen: Robert le Hoy, 1551. Small 4to.

This curious book is rarely found complete. This copy is bound by Trautz-Bauzonnet in dark blue morocco, with doublé of red morocco, panelled borders, having the fleur-de-lis at each corner and an "H" in the centre of each side and end of the panelling.

KORAN. Illuminated manuscript. Folio.

Copies of the Koran of this size and beauty of writing are almost unknown, except in the large mosques and mausoleums. This is one of two copies written about the year 1600 by a celebrated calligraphist. The Surahs, or chapters, are separated by decorated interspaces.

LIVRE d'heures.

A quarto-sized illuminated manuscript, written in the fourteenth century.

LIVRE d'offices. Paris, 1885. 8vo.

A beautiful example of modern inlaid binding by Zaehnsdorf.

LONGFELLOW, Henry Wadsworth. The Birds of Killingworth. 4to.

This book was designed and executed in water-colors by Mrs. H. J. [J. Pauline] Sunter, of Auburn, N. Y., but was never published. The illustrated pages are thirty-three in number.

MALPIGHI, Marcellus. Opera. London, 1687. 2 vols. in 1. Folio.

A good specimen of 17th century binding.

NEW Laws of the Indies for the good treatment and preservation of the Indians promulgated by the Emperor Charles the fifth, 1542–1543. A reprint of the original Spanish edition, together with a literal translation into English; to which is prefixed an historical introduction by the late Henry Stevens of Vermont and F. W. Lucas. London: The Chiswick Press. 1893.

PALISSOT, Charles. Œuvres complétes. Paris, 1788. 4 vols. 8vo.

From the library of Marie-Antoinette, at the Tuileries, and later from the collection of M. Eugène Paillet. The binding, in red morocco, bears the Queen's arms on each cover of each volume.

PALUSTRE, Léon. La renaissance en France. Paris, 1879–85. 3 vols. Folio.

No. 37 of forty copies on China paper. Bound by Marius Michel in rich red morocco, with a broad panel of light brown; the whole choicely tooled. It has an elaborate centre ornament, in which the letter "H" is twice given, the same letter being incorporated in the top and bottom ends of the brown panel. The centre is further decorated with fleurs-de-lis and St. George and the Dragon pendant.

PASSIO Domini Nostri. U. Graf. Argentorati, 1507. Folio.

Le PASTISSIER, François. À Amsterdam, chez Louys et Daniel Elzevier. 1655. 12mo.

This is the "King of the Elzeviers" and nearly the rarest of the Elzevier collection. There are not above thirty volumes known to exist. The binding is by Cuzin, in red morocco, with doublé of blue morocco, with elaborate and minute tooled decoration. A copy of this work sold in Paris at auction for 10,000 francs.

PFINZING, Melchior. Tewrdanncks. Augsburg, 1519. Folio.

A copy of the second edition, acquired from the library of the Hon. Frederick North. The first and second editions were not, as generally supposed, printed from the same types and plates. The variations are very numerous. The types were specially made for this work from designs executed by Albert Dürer, according to his own taste, at the special request of the Emperor Maximilian. They imitate, in a marvellous manner, a beautiful German writing.

PONTANUS, Joannes Jovianus. Opera. Venice, 1533. 2 vols. 8vo.

This is a fine Aldine, bound by Capé in olive-brown levant, with Grolier ornaments. It is printed in the italic type which Aldus invented and thought so highly of that many volumes were printed wholly in that character.

PREVOST, L'Abbé. Histoire de Manon Lescaut. Paris, 1797. 2 vols. 12mo.
A beautiful specimen of binding by Lortic *fils* in blue crushed levant, with doublé of green morocco.

REDI, Francesco. Esperienze. Florence, 1671. Small folio.
The binding is Italian, in hogskin, of the same period. The figures of persons, in Italian costumes, shown in the elaborate vaulted chamber with pillars and a tesselated pavement, are done in various colored inlaid leathers, polished and hand-tooled.

RARITIES.

*Lent by Various Owners.*

BRETT, Edwin J. Pictorial and descriptive record of arms and armour. London, 1894. Folio. [*The Rittenhouse Club.*]

FERDINAND III. of Germany. Autograph and seal of the Emperor, countersigned by his Minister Questenberg; a relic of the thirty years' war. [*Julius F. Sachse, Esq.*]

GASTON d'Orléans, brother of the King Louis. Autograph on parchment, dated 1646. [*James G. Barnwell, Esq.*]

GEORGE III. of England. Manuscript letter to the Dey of Algiers, showing the autograph "George R." [*James G. Barnwell, Esq.*]

LOUIS XIII., King of France. Signature to document on parchment, dated 1629, "Lettres d'honneur pour M. de Fienbot, Secrétaire du Roi." [*James G. Barnwell, Esq.*]

Louis XIV., King of France. Document on parchment, dated 1704, with autograph signature. [*James G. Barnwell, Esq.*]

[MAGNA Charta.] The Excellent Priviledge of Liberty and Property. [Philadelphia: printed by William Bradford, 1687.] 63 pp. 16mo. [*The Meeting of the Friends of Suffering.*]
The first American edition of Magna Charta; with William Penn's Patent and his "Charter of Liberties." For reprint by the Philobiblon Club see the next exhibit.

[MAGNA Charta.] The Excellent Priviledge of Liberty and Property. Philadelphia: The Philobiblon Club, 1897. [*The Philobiblon Club.*]
A reprint of the preceding exhibit. The first publication of the Philobiblon Club, of which only 150 copies were printed, five being on vellum.

MAZARIN Bible. One leaf of this renowned Bible, on vellum.
Only nineteen copies exist of this edition of the Bible on paper, and seven on vellum.

PAPAL Indulgence. Bull of 100 days' Indulgence by the Cardinal Patriarch of Aquilya, Papal Nuncio, dated March, 1471, in the first years of the Pontificate of P. P. Sixtus IV. [*James G. Barnwell, Esq.*]

PAPAL Indulgence. An original Indulgence, dated Feb. 5, 1479, issued by Sixtus IV., for the purpose of rebuilding the church of Marie de Mont Carmelo, in Nordlingen. [*Julius F. Sachse, Esq.*]
It is dated February 5, 1479, and is the only copy of an Indulgence of that period known to be in America.

TAYLOR, Bayard. Original Manuscript of Bayard Taylor's translation of Faust. [*James Monaghan, Esq.*]

THACKERAYIANA.

*Original mss. and first editions of Thackeray, Lent by Major W. H. Lambert.*

The ADVENTURES of Philip. The original ms., with pen-and-ink drawings and water-colour sketches by Thackeray. 3 vols. 4to.
Bound by Rivière & Son. The first time this ms. has ever been on exhibition.

The CORSAIR. New York: March, 1839, to March, 1840. 4to.
In the number for Aug. 24, 1839, is the first of the "Letters from London, Paris, etc.," dated July 25, 1839, and signed "T. T."—some of Thackeray's earliest printed work.

FLORE et Zéphyre: ballet mythologique, par Théophile Wagstaff. London, 1836. 4to.
Consists of eight lithographed plates by Thackeray, without letter-press.

The GUARDIAN. London, 1795. 2 vols. 12mo.
With many marginal pencil sketches and notes by Thackeray.

HEROIC adventures of M. Boudin. 4to.
Twelve original drawings by Thackeray, probably intended for a burlesque life of an imaginary hero of the French Revolution and Empire, but never published. See *Harper's Magazine* for February, 1891.

LOVEL the widower. London, 1861. 8vo.
First edition, with a portion of the original ms. inserted. Bound by Rivière.

The NEWCOMES. 2 vols. London, 1855. 8vo.
First edition, with the original wrappers, and with portions of the ms. inserted.

The History of PENDENNIS. 2 vols. London, 1850. 8vo.
First edition, in the original paper wrappers, and with portions of the ms. inserted.

REED, William B. Haud immemor: a few personal recollections of Mr. Thackeray in Philadelphia. Philadelphia, 1864. 8vo.
With original letters of Thackeray inserted.

Original SKETCH-BOOK of Thackeray's. 37 leaves. Oblong 4to.
Containing the celebrated pen-and-ink sketch of Dickens as "Captain Bobadil."

The SNOB: a literary and scientific journal *not* conducted by "Members of the University." Cambridge, 1829. 12mo.
Only eleven numbers were issued, each consisting of six pages, printed on paper of different colors—green, pink, and yellow. It was for No. 4 of this periodical that Thackeray wrote, while an undergraduate at Cambridge, "Timbuctoo" (a burlesque of Tennyson's prize poem), the earliest known writing of Thackeray's published in his lifetime.

The GOWNSMAN, formerly called The Snob. Cambridge, 1830. 12mo.
Continuation of "The Snob." It contains several pieces by Thackeray, and was probably edited by him.

The VIRGINIANS. 2 vols. London, 1859. 8vo.
First edition, with the original paper wrappers, and with portions of the ms. inserted.

The YELLOWPLUSH correspondence. Philadelphia, 1838. 12mo.
The first volume of Thackeray's writings published in separate form, either in Europe or America. It was a reprint of the anonymous articles which had just appeared in *Fraser's Magazine*, and appeared two years before the "Sketch Book" was published in London.

Portrait of THACKERAY: original autograph and pen-and-ink sketch by himself, reading his Lecture on the Four Georges. [*From the G. W. Childs collection in the Drexel Institute.*]

# THE AMERICAN POST-CONFERENCE.

BY MARY P. FARR.

IT is rather amusing to read the program mapped out for the Delaware Water Gap trip, and to then recall what we actually did. In the first place, there were only 21 of us together over Sunday. Monday brought three more arrivals, but also saw the departure of others. The fact that there were so few made it easier for us to become well acquainted with one another; the only thing to be regretted was the short stay of so many. Scarcely a meal passed that we did not find one more empty place, and by Friday there were only nine left. Four frivolous members resolved themselves into what they called "the sub-committee of the A. L. A.," and assumed the duty of recording every night the doings of the day. Should this chronicle drift occasionally into nonsense, we trust that it will be understood as merely a quotation from the log-book.

On Saturday, June 26, strict injunctions were given to meet at Broad street station *in time* for the 12.01 train. These were not obeyed, as the wild state of confusion at the last minute proved; hasty lunches were swallowed, baggage was frantically checked, and such scurrying and scampering for the train can easily be imagined. Just as the gates were closing two librarians dashed madly through, dropping their tickets in the excitement, while it is unnecessary to mention the one who appeared upon the scene at 12.01 with a trunk and bicycle, demanding that they should be checked at once, while the baggage-master calmly informed her that she must wait for the 3.52.

The four hours' ride seemed nothing to that jolly party in the special car. No time was lost when the Kittatinny was reached. The photographers began work at once, taking snap-shots of every nook and grotto. An exploring party climbed the hill to the Water Gap House to take in the view. Coming back through the woods they paused to rest in the rustic arbor of Lake Lenape, but the appearance of a toad was too much for the nerves of one of the party, and they quickly vacated that cool little spot.

The itinerary reads: "dinner and a social evening, with music until midnight, will prepare for the enjoyment of a quiet Sunday." In reality another expedition to the Water Gap House was undertaken in the dense blackness of the night. An attempt was made to return by the route of the afternoon. Each one was sure of the way, and as many different routes were taken as there were members in the party. The situation became exciting when the objects in the path and the path itself could not longer be distinguished. Had it not been for the matches of a bicycle maiden we fear a number of our best members would have come to an untimely end in the abyss, on whose brink they found themselves when the light was produced. Happily the hotel was reached without serious accident. The entire party were soon gathered together laughing and talking over their experiences of the past week.

Be it herewith recorded that the dissipations on this trip invariably ceased several hours before midnight, as an early hour for retiring had been unanimously voted.

The conference was broken up in small groups on Sunday morning. Some rowed down the river to the Gap itself, and sounded the echo all along the mountain; others tried fresh-water bathing; still others ventured on a little mountain-climbing. According to the log-book, they would have gone to church, but they did not know the way and would not ask. Two members sped off on their wheels and took the Cherry Valley circuit, going over Fox Hill, from which height a glorious view of the valley beneath them was obtained. The town of Stroudsburg was included in the return trip. A camera accompanied them, and could we but exhibit the pictures taken, there would be no need to describe the points of interest. They paused to rest by a little creek, over whose stones they scrambled and refreshed themselves with clear water drunk from leafy cups.

The excursion on Sunday afternoon was the only one in which all took part. Four carriages drove us round the Jersey circuit. The road lay over the Shawnee hills, and at every turn we caught new glimpses of the Delaware river in the valley below and of the hills on the Jersey shore. Looking back, the tops of Mount Tammany and Mount Minsi were just visible above Blockade

mountain, which cuts off the view of the Gap from the north.

At Walker's Ferry we had the novel experience of crossing in an old-fashioned flat-bottomed scow, which held but one carriage at a time. We left our carriages and crowded on the scow for the first trip, with the exception of the photographer, who remained on shore to snap us as we were going over. On the grassy banks of the Jersey shore we amused ourselves until all the carriages were towed across.

The road in Jersey ran through dense woods, where only the sound of the voices and the thud of the horses' hoofs could be heard. Again we were out in open fields, but always high above the river. At other times we were driving along a narrow ridge path, with a steep precipice on one side and the high wooded hills towering above us on the other. The laurel was blooming in profusion everywhere, and it was not long before every one was laden with huge bunches of it. Recrossing the river at the foot of Mount Tammany, where all hands turned in to help tow across, we returned to the hotel round the base of Mount Minsi.

"On Monday an excursion is planned for Dingham's Ferry," the program says. But on Monday it is needless to state no one saw Dingham's Ferry. A bicycle party of four was organized to visit the slate quarries. Owing to the rocky and sandy condition of the roads, and the inadaptability of hired wheels, two were discouraged and turned back to find some tamer form of amusement. The other more adventurous ones pushed on, but failed to find the slate quarries. The path wound around the foot of Mount Minsi and Mount Tammany reared its rugged head on the opposite side of the river. This imposing scenery was entirely lost on the cyclers, for every effort on their part to look elsewhere than in the straight and narrow path was promptly discouraged by the frantic actions of their wheels. One of them turned to view the south side of Mount Minsi and soon found herself in an ignominious heap in the dust. To record the number of times they dismounted in any but a graceful manner, or plunged headlong in the bushes, would in itself fill a volume —

> "Purring of the rubber,
> Ringing of the steel,
> Bless me, this is pleasant
> Riding on a wheel!"

Through the village of Portland they went. They climbed to the heights of Mount Bethel, from whose summit they surveyed the surrounding hills and vales, and regaled themselves with ginger ale in the country store and post-office. Unfortunately, no road could be found around the other side of the mountain, and they were obliged to take the same sandy journey home.

A carriage drive was taken in the afternoon through the Cherry valley, with a detour through Stroudsburg. A bicycle party of three visited Buttermilk Falls. "They were disappointed," the log-book says, "in finding the Falls only plain water." Great was their sorrow, however, after climbing across the stones of the creek, at considerable risk, to find the Falls shut off with a barbed-wire fence. To console themselves they raided a wayside candy shop and reappeared with a dozen lemon-sticks.

A mountain climb was planned for Tuesday. Nine started bravely from the hotel, but only five reached the summit of Mount Minsi. The way to Lover's Leap was smooth enough, and we began to think mountain-climbing was nothing after all. The Promontory, Prospect Point, and other points of interest were rapidly left in the rear. Occasionally we stopped to rest and regaled ourselves with funny stories. Weary members dropped by the wayside in shady nooks to await the return of the others. The heat was intense, but the party was too jolly to give much thought of it. The views at every turn repaid us for all the heat and fatigue we endured. As we mounted higher and higher the scene became ever more impressive. The hills lay in the distance, with farm-houses scattered here and there upon them; villages were barely visible in the valleys; long stretches of cultivated fields were relieved by dense woodlands, and the river making its way between the mountains added to the grandeur and beauty of the view.

As we neared the top the path became more rocky and almost impassable, but the five kept boldly on, and Eagle's Nest, the highest point, was finally reached. Here the view was entirely different from any we had seen on the other side of the mountain. Looking south through New Jersey and Pennsylvania, long, flat stretches of country appeared, with the Delaware river clearly marking the boundary line. The houses were mere dots upon the

scene from the distance at which we viewed them. The hills up which we had laboriously pushed our wheels the day before appeared as ant-hills now. We spied the slate quarries several miles distant from the road which we had taken. The descent was found more difficult than the climb to the summit, and the resting-places became more frequent.

Upon the return to the hotel the little steamboat *Kittatinny* was chartered, and the party sped down to the river to the bath-houses. A plunge in the "stilly deep" refreshed the weary ones and sharpened their appetites for dinner.

The A. L. A. had diminished so rapidly that it required but two carriages to drive us over the Jersey circuit on Tuesday afternoon. We crossed the river at Dimmick's Ferry and returned by way of Walker's, laden with rhododendrons. A drizzling rain set in before the end of the drive, and the heavy shower which followed in the evening warned us that A. L. A. conferences cannot be all sunshine as this one had been heretofore. Plans were made for a rainy day on Wednesday, but were thrown aside when Wednesday dawned clear and hotter than ever.

A drive was taken by the main portion of the A. L. A. to Marshall's Falls, and Bradlee Falls were also visited by the way. A second mountain tramp was attempted by four. Their route lay around Lake Lenape. As there were no toads in the summer-house they were able to rest there without fear of alarm. Along the sylvan way they wandered to Caldeno Falls, striking off in the wrong path frequently, but this had become a feature of mountain-climbing and needs no mention. Likewise the gnats which continually beset their path need only be spoken of. It was delightfully refreshing after the exertion of the walk to stand on the broad mossy rocks beneath the Falls and feel the spray dashing in one's face. They stopped by Diana's Bath, that little pool which remains so calm and serene while the waters dash by it from the Moss Cataract to the Falls below. Crossing the mountain to Eureka Glen they climbed slowly down the rickety stairway leading to Childs' Arbor. At almost every landing a pause was made to rest and gaze upon the cooling waters as they splashed over the moss-grown rocks. The dogs which had accompanied the mountain-climbers plunged in at once and refreshed themselves while the unfortunate four remained as hot as ever. The return home was made by the picturesque Moss Ledge path. The danger of the narrow and crumbling pathway was greatly increased by the dogs, who insisted upon taking the inside track as they rushed backward and forward in their antics. Up and down the path wound around the side of the mountain, great rocks hanging high overhead in many places, or jutting out in huge columns or forming solid walls; here and there a miniature cave opened on the pathway, and dense foliage was everywhere, Great bunches of maidenhair were carried back to the hotel as mementos of the occasion.

The morning was completed with a row down the river and another plunge, which had now become a part of each day's program.

Wednesday afternoon was marked by the departure of one of the most important members of the "sub-committee." Owing to this sad fact no great project was on foot. The more dignified portion of the A. L. A. skirted up and down the river in the steamboat *Kittatinny*, but the doings of the others the log-book can best relate.

"The sub-committee mounted to the arbor of the Water Gap house, where they held a farewell concert tendered to the late departed member. The concert was a great success, as it was accompanied by a delightful breeze and view. On the departure of the aforesaid member on the 4.44 train, the three remaining shed many bitter tears as they waved their handkerchiefs over the railing of the Kittatinny. For consolation they sojourned to the village and sallied into a nondescript establishment, whose proprietor claimed to be a purveyor of ice-cream. But subsequent investigation proved that there was neither ice nor cream in the hideous concoction, though he assured them he had used at least two flavors in its preparation. After this the sub-committee will eat neither vanilla nor chocolate. A few slight purchases were made at the local Wanamaker's and the party returned to the hotel, to enable one to get a snooze, a second a shave, and the third a ride in the elevator."

An excursion to Bushkill Falls was on the general program. Only two members, however, undertook the journey to these falls, which boast of being the largest and most beautiful in the district. They started out early Thurs-

day morning on their wheels, with the intention of visiting only Marshall's Falls and returning in time to drive with the others in the afternoon to Wolf Hollow. On leaving Marshall's Falls they found a good road with comparatively few hills, which was so unusual in that region that they kept on merely for the pleasure of riding. The village of Bushkill was reached without any effort. Upon inquiry they discovered the Falls to be two miles and a half further on, and up hill, as they found to their sorrow; but they were not to be discouraged. They began to think the Falls must lie somewhere in the clouds, for at every turn a new hill appeared and riding was impossible. Finally the spot was reached, and the sight that greeted their eyes well repaid them for pushing their wheels all the way. That mighty volume of water as it plunged over the steep wall of rock, and the rainbow hues of the spray as it dashed out beneath, were a spectacle well worth walking or riding any number of miles in the heat and dust to see. A rustic path and bridge extended down through the ravine, crossing and recrossing the creek. The weary ones did not venture farther than the foot of the Falls, and of course were afterwards told they failed to see the prettiest part of the scene.

"They came down those hills like a house afire," the log-book reads, "pigs, chickens, and cows scattered in all directions. Peter's House in Bushkill furnished them shelter from the burning sun and a luke-warm dinner of mutton and cherry pie." Great was their amazement to find, in the course of conversation with the proprietor, that the nearest railway station was 13 miles away, and they inwardly prayed that neither rain nor accident would visit them until they were safely within the pale of civilization. The ride home was merely child's play, with the exception of three or four miles, which lay over a mountain somewhere in the vicinity of Buttermilk Falls.

Meantime the other portion of the A. L. A. were amusing themselves with risking their lives in rowboats with inexperienced oarsmen, or on the Moss Ledge with guides who took no thought of the treacherous footing. On the non-arrival of the two who had started for Marshall's Falls, great anxiety spread through the party. Pictures of one cycler carrying the mangled remains of another, or of the two shouldering the pieces of a shattered wheel or walking with punctured tires, loomed up in their minds. The advisability of organizing a searching party was discussed, but this idea was abandoned, and with these cheerful thoughts for companions a slim portion of the A. L. A. drove to Wolf Hollow and returned laden as usual with ferns, laurel, and rhododendrons. They found the cyclers calmly seated on the piazza, utterly regardless of the trouble they had caused. The only sympathy the worried ones received for the distress and anxiety they had suffered, was the assurance that they had missed one of the grandest sights in the whole vicinity of the Gap.

A final row on the river was taken at sunset, and the echo sent back the merry songs and laughter.

A farewell visit was tendered to Lake Lenape, Caldeno Falls, and the Moss Ledge path on Friday morning. This journey was taken for the sole purpose of displaying the beauties of the place to one who had failed to visit these spots, but who loudly protested all the way against undertaking such an expedition in the burning heat of the day. One young lady who had experienced several narrow escapes on the Moss Ledge path the day before positively refused to venture there again, and preferred to walk home by the dusty road instead. When the path was found more slippery than ever, and the gnats flew into our eyes, we began to think the young lady in the road the wisest after all, and we wondered if it were any cooler down there. A rest in Lovers' retreat was gladly welcomed; an occasional "Oh, but it is hot!" constituted the entire conversation. The steamboat *Kittatinny* for the last time carried us down for our refreshing bath.

Six members reluctantly took their departure on the 4.44 train, leaving but three to wave tender adieux over the railing of the Kittatinny. Exciting games of "old maid" and "hearts" greatly enlivened the journey to Philadelphia.

It was unanimously voted by the six members present:

That a post-conference trip, consisting of flying trips from place to place, cannot be as enjoyable and satisfactory as one spent in some attractive spot where the members have time to turn around and become acquainted with one another, as the thorough enjoyment of this post-conference has shown.

## ATTENDANCE REGISTER.

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| Assistants | 19 | 95 | 114 |
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| Library schools | 2 | 19 | 21 |
| Others | 4 | 20 | 24 |
| | 121 | 194 | 315 |

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|---|---|---|
| 9 of the 9 No. Atlantic states sent | | 229 |
| 4 " 9 So. Atlantic states | " | 24 |
| 8 " 8 Lake states | " | 53 |
| 3 " 8 Mountain states | " | 6 |
| Canada | " | 3 |
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BY STATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
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| Vt | 4 | Mich | 3 |
| Mass | 20 | Wis | 7 |
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| Ct | 11 | Ia | 4 |
| N. Y | 62 | Mo | 3 |
| Penn | 106 | Neb | 3 |
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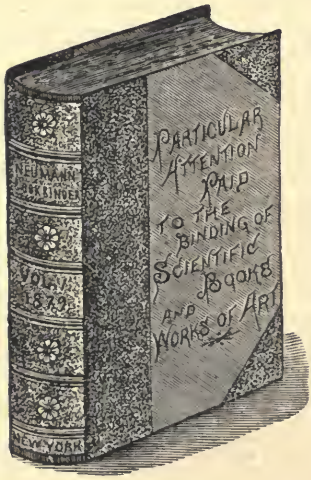


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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

VOL. 22. NO. 11.

NOVEMBER, 1897.

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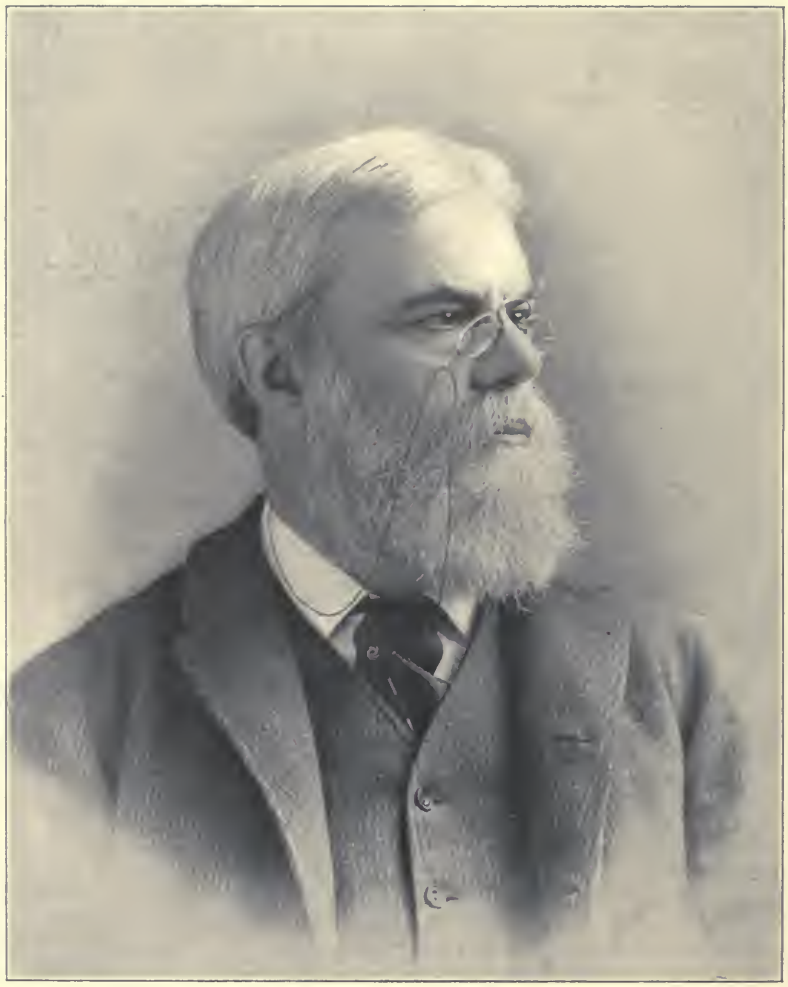

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Justin Winsor

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. NOVEMBER, 1897. No. 11

THE death of Justin Winsor, during the year in which he had accepted the presidency of the American Library Association for a second period, during the commemoration year of the Association, seems almost to make a close to the first generation of the Association's life. When the American Library Association was founded, Justin Winsor, then at the head of the Boston Public Library, was the natural selection for headship of the Association, his eminence in the profession being shared at that time only by Dr. Poole and Mr. Cutter. These three were successively the early presidents of the Association, and of this notable trio only Mr. Cutter remains with us — happily no older in action and scarcely older in look than when the members of the newly organized A. L. A. first saw him in the early councils. Since then the profession has broadened until now a score of names suggest themselves as those of leaders in the work, many of them already on the honor roll of presidents of the Association, and others fit candidates for the future. The centre of library activity, which was then Boston, has moved as far west as Chicago, and with the exception of the south, yet to be developed, the whole country is fairly permeated with the library spirit and is developing in practice the library idea. Dr. Winsor's record as scholar as well as librarian is given elsewhere — a record which no one can read without a strong sense of his great capabilities as executive, which enabled him not only to organize two great libraries but gave him time for the direct personal research and scholarship which has placed his name, through his monumental work, among the ablest historians of this country. His was one of the names known and respected throughout the world of scholarship, abroad as well as at home. It is the more gratifying, in view of his sudden departure from amongst us, that this commemoration year was so fitly marked by his re-election to the presidency of the Association.

CHICAGO marks its supremacy in library development, it is scarcely too much to say, by opening the superb new building for the Chicago Public Library, which is to do for the people what the benefactions of Newberry and Crerar are to do for scholars. There is no city in the world which has the library equipment of Chicago, in the several respects in which libraries touch the life of a great city. London has its British Museum, Paris its Bibliothèque Nationale, but neither of these are popular libraries, and Boston, although it has the Athenæum alongside the Public Library, cannot now hold its own with this magnificent library endowment of Chicago. Perhaps in Chicago, as in Boston, the new building may prove to be more interesting architecturally than serviceable for administration, and some criticisms have been made of the Chicago decorations as being rather strong in color and effect for the quietness which should be the "tone" of a library. Whatever may be possible defects of the library building in this direction, Chicago has the greatest reason for congratulation on the public spirit both of the community and of its private citizens in this great equipment, and if New York is to be on the first of January the greater city, it must still be confessed that it cannot yet approach Chicago in its library development.

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PHILADELPHIA is the next great city to fall into line as regards an adequate public library building. The $12,000,000 loan bill, which was passed by a fair majority at the November election, provides for the appropriation of $1,000,000 for the erection of a central library "designed," as the bill succinctly states, "for public utility rather than for public display." How much such a building is needed in the city, those who have noted the remarkable work done by the Philadelphia Free Library, and the influence that has radiated from its inadequate building within the past four years, need not be told. But it may be doubted whether any other city, at home or abroad, can show so phe-

nomenal a library growth within so short a time, and with the added facilities and opportunities that the new building will give, it is hard to foresee limits to the work before the Philadelphia library. From the beginning, the importance of the free library item in the loan bill was recognized by the Philadelphia press and had hearty public support, but its history was nevertheless a checkered one. Included in the original draft of the bill, it was later omitted in a revision made by the city councils, and perhaps no episode in the library's history is more gratifying than the instant expression of public opinion which compelled the reconsideration of the decision and the replacement of the library provision. That was, indeed, more of a triumph for the library than was the vote of Nov. 2, for it proved directly and forcibly how sure was the place the library had won in the community.

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NONE of the subjects presented at the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A. awakened more general interest than the description given, at the second Elementary Session, of the methods developed in the Cleveland Public Library for getting into touch with the children and awakening a sense of library ownership in their minds. The Library League, organized by the Cleveland Public Library in the spring of this year, must be accepted as the most suggestive of recent movements in library work. Its simplicity makes it practicable in the smallest libraries as well as in the largest; it lends itself to the work of the children's department or the children's library with special fitness; it tends toward the appreciation and care of books; and, best of all, it makes for the feeling of personal ownership and responsibility, which is the foundation stone of the free public library. The inception and organization of the league, as described at the conference by Miss Eastman, has been given in the Conference number of the JOURNAL; in the present issue, Miss Eastman continues the subject, and her presentation of the Cleveland League, as it exists to-day, is as inspiring as it is practically suggestive. Surely, an army of 12,000 children, actually pledged to the loving care of books, and brought into organized relationship with the public library and with one another through that library, must prove a force in the future educational development of any city that can hardly be overestimated.

## Communications.

### *A BIBLIOGRAPHER'S DILEMMA.*

A BIBLIOGRAPHER is human, he likes approbation and dislikes censure; but in what feelings should he indulge when he is credited with work he has never done and charged with using a method in this imaginary undertaking, which method he would not employ if he had opportunity? I put this dilemma in an impersonal form, but the thought is suggested by personal experience.

Miss Edith E. Clarke in her valuable essay on "Corporate entry" (L. J., Sept., '97, p. 434) credits me with compiling a bibliography of society publications (which I have not done), and expresses regret that I "adopted the old-time custom of entering societies under the place." Miss Clarke probably refers to my "Catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals," published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1885, which contains very few society journals, not one of which is entered under the place of publication. I agree with Miss Clarke in thinking the plan an inconvenient one.

It may interest readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL to learn that a new edition of the "Catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals, 1665–1895," containing 8600 titles is nearly completed; it only awaits the preparation of a library-check-list, to which 200 librarians in the United States and Canada have courteously contributed.

The new edition will be issued by the Smithsonian Institution, and may be expected by the close of the current year.

H. CARRINGTON BOLTON.

### *BOOK LISTS FOR LIBRARY DISCUSSION.*

As elsewhere reported, the Massachusetts Library Club has just held a meeting for the discussion of the new books of the year. Similar discussions have been held by other clubs, and could well be an annual item in the program of every state club. But is it necessary that each association should print a list of its own, or that the lists should continue to overlap one another? Is it not possible so to arrange the meetings devoted to this purpose, that a list could be printed for the common use of all the associations that wished to use them, each paying for the number used? I do not attempt to indicate a plan for preparing the lists, or for arranging for their discussion, but I believe it could be accomplished. The lists could then be more widely circulated than when they are printed at the cost of single organizations, and doubtless some associations that cannot undertake the preparation of lists — which are indispensable to the proper discussion of the books — would be able to avail themselves of lists prepared in this way. It might be possible to revise and reissue the lists, if done by the linotype, after they had had the advantage of discussion in half a dozen states.

WM. H. TILLINGHAST.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY,
Cambridge, Mass.

## THE WORK FOR CHILDREN IN FREE LIBRARIES.*

By Mary Wright Plummer, *Director Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.*

It is so early in the movement for children's libraries that by taking some thought now it would seem possible to avoid much retracing of steps hereafter, and it is for this reason that even at this early day a comparison of experiences and theories by those libraries which have undertaken the work is desirable and even necessary. It is as well, perhaps, to begin with a few historical statistics, gathered from questions sent out last December and from perusal of the Library Journal reports since then.

Many libraries, probably the majority, have had an age-limit for borrowers, and the admission of children under 12 to membership is of comparatively recent date. The separation of children from the adult users of the library by means of a room of their own was probably originated by the Public Library of Brookline, which in 1890 set aside an unused room in its basement for a children's reading-room. In 1893 the Minneapolis Public Library fitted up a library for children, from which books circulate also, where they had (as reported in December, 1896) 20,000 volumes, the largest children's library yet reported. In 1894 the Cambridge Public Library opened a reading-room and the Denver Public Library a circulating library for children. An article on the latter undertaking may be found in the *Outlook* for September 26, 1896. In 1895 Boston, Omaha, Seattle, New Haven, and San Francisco, all opened either circulating libraries or reading-rooms for children, and in 1896 Detroit, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, Everett (Mass.) and Kalamazoo (Mich.) followed suit. The libraries of Circleville (O.), Milwaukee, Cleveland, and Helena (Mont.) are all projecting plans for the same, and probably this year will show a notable increase. The new Public Library of Chicago has made no especial provision for children, from the fact that its situation in the heart of the business district of the city will prevent many children from coming to it, but provision of some sort will be made for them at the various branch reading-rooms throughout the city. In the new building of the Providence Library considerations of cost made it necessary to give up the addition of a children's library, a matter of great disappointment to every one.

From all these libraries except the last two, reports were received by us in December, 1896, on comparing which we found considerable similarity of usage, though as there had been but little in print on the subject up to 1896 this probably arose not from communication between the libraries but from the fact that like circumstances and causes produced like effects in different places.

Of the 15 libraries reporting, 11 circulated books from the children's room, three making an age-limit for this, while the four remaining contented themselves with giving the children a reading-room, in which a number of books — about 300 — were placed, for reading on the premises. The temptation for a child who becomes interested in a book, to carry it off when closing-hour comes, in order to finish it, is a strong one, and of these four libraries one reported 35 books missing in its first six months, or over one-tenth of its stock. Two others which circulate from open shelves to all borrowers lost 100 children's books in a little over 12 months. A number of others reported that as yet they had taken no inventory of the books in the room, and were evidently willing that ignorance should remain bliss a little longer. Several report that very few books are unaccounted for, and one or two that not a book has been taken. Free access to the children's books is allowed in all the 15, and in about half of them the room is open all day, and in two cases in the evening also.

The number of volumes shelved ranges all the way from 300 to 20,000, the average number being from 3000 to 4000. An age-limit for the use of the room is set by seven libraries, three of these making the limit for circulation only, while eight admit children of any age, and doubtless make provision for the very youngest. The circulation of these rooms that lend books ranges from 65 to 350 as a daily average, frequently exceeding this. As a rule, one attendant is kept in the room, with assistance when necessary, two libraries only reporting two regular assistants and the Boston Public Library three. The Detroit Library has two attendants in order to give the children personal attention. The library at Kalamazoo has for one of its assistants a trained kinder-

* Read before the Friends' Library Association of Philadelphia, and the New York Library Club.

gartner. Eight libraries report no reference-books on the children's shelves and the majority of the others only a few such works. The largest number of periodicals taken appears to be our own list of 10, though by this time the libraries reporting in 1896 may have increased their number. Instead of taking a variety of periodicals, they seem to prefer duplicating a few favorites. One library reports a number of copies of *Puck* taken for children, the wisdom of which I should doubt, and two subscribe for *Golden Days*. The Minneapolis Library circulates 10 copies of *St. Nicholas*. The Boston Public Library, having a large foreign clientèle among children as well as adults, takes one German and one French periodical for them. In the Detroit Library the *Scienciific American* is on the list, and in our children's library we take a copy of *Harper's Weekly*.

A number of libraries report crowding and lack of time and space. In one no periodicals can be kept in the children's library, because there is no room for the children to sit down to read them. Another reports as many as 75 children frequently in the room at once, a third that the room is so full children have often to be sent out, and a fourth, which at the time was only a reading-room, that the attendance was so large very little could be done except to keep order. Most of the libraries report a fair proportion of foreigners among the children, and one speaks of having many colored children among the readers.

Turning from these reports to a general consideration of the subject, we must admit, first, that a definite decision as to the object of a children's library is the first thing needful.

This decision will doubtless vary in different libraries, and the results will differ accordingly, but almost any decision is better than none, since one cannot be arrived at without giving much thought to the subject, and the desirable thing is that the work should be entered upon thoughtfully.

We have passed the time when reading in itself was considered a vast good. The ability to read may easily be a curse to the child, for unless he be provided with something fit to read, it is an ability as powerful for evil as for good. When we consider the dime-novels, the class of literature known as Sunday-school books, the sensational newspapers, the vicious literature insinuated into schools, and the tons of printed matter issued by reputable publishers, written by reputable people, good enough in its intention but utterly lacking in nourishment, and, therefore, doing a positive harm in occupying the place of better things — when we consider that all these are brought within a child's reach by the ability to read, we cannot help seeing that the librarian, in his capacity as selector of books for the library, has the initial responsibility. Certain classes of the printed stuff just spoken of do not, of course, find their way into children's libraries, since they are barred out from all respectable shelves; but we are still too lenient with print because it is print, and every single book should be carefully examined before it goes into a library where children have access to the shelves.

But given an ideal selection of books, or as near it as we can get and still have enough books to go around, is just the reading of them — that is, the passing of the eye over the types, gaining a momentary impression — the most desirable thing to be got out of them? Are there not here and there children who are reading to the lasting detriment of their memories and powers of observation and reflection, stuffing themselves with type, as it were? Nearly every observant librarian knows of such cases. Are there not days when the shining of the sun, the briskness of the air, the greenness of the turf and of the trees, should have their invitation seconded by the librarian, and the child be persuaded *away* from the library instead of *to* it? We are supposed to contribute with our books toward the sound mind, but we should be none the less advocates of the sound body — and the child who reads all day indoors when he ought to be out in the fresh air among his kind, should have our especial watching.

But, granted the suitable book and the suitable time for reading, what do we know of the effect our books are having? We count our circulation just the same whether a book is kept two days — about long enough for the family to look at the pictures — or a week. Whether it has been really read we do not know. Sometimes I think those pencilled notes on the margin, recording the child's disgust or satisfaction, should have more meaning for us than they do. At least, they prove that the book has taken hold of the reader's imagination and sympathies. Don't let us be too severe with a criticism written in the honest feeling of the moment (if it be in pencil); we are really gathering psychological and sociological data for which the child-study clubs would thank us, perhaps.

I see only one way in which we can be enabled to estimate fairly the value of what we are doing, and that is by so gaining the good-will and confidence of the children as to get them to answer our questions as to their reading or to tell us of their own accord what they get from it. From this information we may make our inferences as to the value of our books in themselves, and may be enabled to regulate their use. A child whose exclusive diet is fairy-tales is evidently over-cultivating the imagination; a girl who has outgrown children's books and dipped into the premature love-stories that are written for her class needs our most careful guidance; a boy whose whole thought is of adventure, or who cannot read anything but jokes, is also in a critical condition.

In short, the judicious regulation of the children's reading should be made practicable for the librarian, if the children's library is to be the important agency in education which it may be made.

In regard to the desirability of amusements in the library, I own that I am somewhat sceptical. The library has its own division of labor in the work of education, and that division is the training of the people to the use and appreciation of books and literature. An argument in favor of games is that they draw in children who might not otherwise come, but I should fear they would be drawn in finally in such crowds as to be unmanageable. Books properly administered should have the same drawing power, and their influence, once felt, is toward quietness and thought, rather than toward activity and skill with the complications of dispute and cheating that may arise from the use of games. Children are natural propagandists. Let one child find that at the children's library he may select his own books from a good-sized collection, may find help in his composition-work, the news of what is going on in the world in the shape of an attractive illustrated bulletin-board, different every week — and tomorrow 10 children will know of it, and each of these will tell other 10, and so on. The library will have all the children it can attend to eventually, and they will have come gradually so that the assistants shall have been able to get a proper grasp of the situation, while the earlier children will have been somewhat trained to help, like the elder brothers and sisters in a family.

Certain freedoms may be granted in the children's library as an education for the adult constituency of the future; for instance, the guarantee may be done away with, thus putting the child on his honor to pay his own fines and damages — the only penalties for not doing so being those which society naturally inflicts on offenders — the debarring from privileges and from association. If there is nothing injurious or doubtful on the shelves, freedom in choice of books may be allowed to the smallest child, only he must know that help and guidance are at hand if he wishes them, and if a tendency to over-read in any one direction or in all is noticed, the librarian should feel at liberty to make suggestions. And as to freedom of action, the maxim should be that one man's liberty ends where another man's begins. No child should be allowed to disturb the room or to interfere with the quiet of those who are studying, for many children, more than one would think, really come to study. But the stiffness and enforced routine of the school-room should by all means be avoided. There should be no set rules as to silence, but consideration for others should be inculcated, and in time the room will come to have a subduing, quiet atmosphere that will insensibly affect those who enter. Whispering, or talking in a low tone, where several little heads are bent together over picture-books, is certainly admissible, and the older heads are very soon quiet of their own accord, each over its own book or magazine.

After the selection of the books themselves there is nothing so important as thoughtful administration, a practical question, since the employment of assistants comes in under this head. Educators have for some time seen the mistake of putting the cheapest teachers over the primary schools — kindergartners have seen it — and it remains for the library to profit by their experience without going through a similar one. If there is on the library staff an assistant well read and well educated, broad-minded, tactful, with common sense and judgment, attractive to children in manner and person, possessed, in short, of all desirable qualities, she should be taken from wherever she is, put into the children's library, and paid enough to keep her there. There is no more important work in the building, no more delicate, critical work than that with children, no work that pays so well in immediate as well as in far-off results. Who that has met the fault-finding, the rudeness and coldness too frequent

in a grown-up constituency, would not expand in the sunshine of the gratitude, the confidence, the good-will, the natural helpfulness of children! And it rests partly with the assistant to cultivate these qualities in them, and so modify the adult constituency of the future.

I say *thoughtful* administration because the children's library is no sooner opened than it begins to present problems. Some of these are simply administrative and economic, others take hold of social and ethical foundations. There will be scarcely a day on which the librarian and the children's librarian will not have to put their heads, and sometimes their hearts, together over puzzling cases — cases of fraud, of mischief-making, of ignorant evil-doing, of inherited tendencies, physical, mental, and moral — and sometimes it will seem as if the whole human creation were incurably ailing, and the doctrine of total depravity will take on alarming probability. But at this point some sound, smiling, active boy or girl comes in with a cheerful greeting, and pessimism retires into the background. And all this reminds me of one more quality which the children's librarian must have — a sense of humor. It is literally saving in some circumstances.

Our own experience has led to the following suggestions, made by the children's librarian in our library to those who come in at given hours from the other departments to take her place or to assist her. It will be seen that most of them are the product of observation and thought arising from the daily evidence of the room itself:

"Always tell a child how to fill out his application-blank, even when you are busy. Tell him just where to write his name in the register and stay near him till it is completed. Whenever it is possible, go to the shelves with a child who has just received his card of membership. Show him where different kinds of books are to be found. Ask him what kind of book he likes. Show him one or two answering to his description and then leave him to make his own selection.

"Explain the routine carefully and fully to children just beginning to use the library.

"Let no child sign the register, look at a book, receive or present an application, with soiled hands. Soiled and crumpled applications are considered defective and cannot be accepted.

"Do not expect or demand perfect quiet. Frequent tapping upon the desk excites the children and betrays nervousness on the part of the person in charge. Let the discipline of the room seem to be incidental; let the child feel that it is first and foremost a library where books are to be had for the asking, and that you are there to make it easier to get them.

"Never call children's numbers, but use their names if necessary, though a glance of recognition pleases them better. Do not force acquaintance. Children like it even less than grown people. Be sympathetic and responsive, but beware of mannerisms or effusiveness. Remember, too, that questioning is a fine art, and one should take care not to offend.

"Speed is not the first requisite at a children's desk. Children have more patience with necessary formalities than grown people.

"Let some of the children help in the work of the room, but do not urge them to do so.

"Avoid stereotyped forms of expression when reproving a child or conversing with him. Let him feel that you are speaking to him personally; he will not feel this if he hears the same words used for 50 other boys."

For evening work, when there is no circulation of books: "read to them sometimes; talk to them at others; and sometimes leave them quite alone. They are more appreciative when they find you are leaving work to give them pleasure than they would be if they found you were making their pleasure your work."

These are a few of the instructions or suggestions consequent upon daily observation and experience. Doubtless every children's librarian could supplement them with many more, but they are enough to show what I mean by "thoughtful administration."

Occasionally the librarian who serves children will have to take account of stock, sum up the changes for better or for worse in the use and treatment of the room, in the manners and habits of the children and in their reading. She will have to retire a little from her work, take a bird's-eye view of it, and decide if on the whole progress is making toward her ideal. Without identifying itself with any of the movements such as the kindergarten, child-study, and social settlement, without losing control of itself and resigning itself to any outside guidance, the children's library should still absorb what is to its purpose in the work of all these agencies. "This one thing I do," the librarian may have to keep reminding herself, to keep from being drawn off into other issues, but by standing a little apart she may see what is to her advantage without being sucked in by the draft as some enthusiastic

movement sweeps by. Must she have no enthusiasm? Yes, indeed; but is not that a better enthusiasm which enables one to work on steadily for years with undiminished courage than the kind that exhausts itself in the great vivacity of its first feeling and effort?

It will not be long after the opening of the children's library before an insight will be gained into domestic interiors and private lives that will make the librarian wish she could follow many a child to his home, in order to secure for him and his something better than the few hours' respite from practical life which they may get from the reading of books. When the boy who steals and the girl who is vicious before they are in their teens, have to be sent away lest other children suffer, it is borne in upon the librarian that a staff of home-missionaries connected with the library to follow up and minister in such cases would not be a bad thing — and she has to remind herself again and again that it is not incumbent on any one person to attempt everything, and that Providence has other instrumentalities at work besides herself. The humors of the situation, on the other hand, are many. The boys who, being sent home to wash their hands, return in an incredibly short time with purified palms and suppressed giggles, and on persistent inquiry confess, "We just licked 'em," present to one who is "particular" only a serio-comic aspect; and the little squirrel who wriggles to the top of the librarian's chair until he can reach her ear and then whispers into it, "There couldn't be no library here 'thout you, could there?" is not altogether laughable; but incidents of pure comedy are occasionally to be set over against the serious side.

Last spring, with a view to gaining information directly in the answers to our questions and indirectly in the light the answers should throw on the character of the children, we chose 150 boys and girls who were regularly using the library and sent to them a series of questions to be answered in writing. They were apparently greatly pleased to be consulted in this way, and it seemed to us that very few of the replies were insincere in tone, or intended merely to win approbation. From the 100 replies worth any consideration I have drawn these specimen answers:

One of the first questions we asked was, "How long have you been using the library?" Of 100 who answered, 25 had used the library more than six months, 33 more than a year, 22 more than two years, 11 more than three years, nine more than four years, and one six years, since books were first given out to children. Many children first hear of the library when they are 13 and over, and after 14 they have the use of the main library, so that in their case the time of use is necessarily shorter. However, if a child has not done with the children's library by the time he is 14, we allow him to continue using it until he wishes to be transferred.

Of 100 children, 68 reported that other members of their families used the library, while 32 reported themselves the only borrowers. This is interesting in connection with their answers to the question, "Does any one at home or at school tell you good books to read?" 71 reported yes and 29 no, about the same proportion. In many families the parents are of a mental calibre or at a stage in education to enjoy books written for children, and we have found that children often drew books with their parents' tastes in view. One little girl whose own tastes led her to select a charming little book on natural history was sent back with it by an aunt who said it was not suitable and requested one of the semi-demi-novels that are provided for quite young girls, as being much more appropriate. The difficulty in keeping "hands off" in a case where grown people are thus influencing children injuriously can be fully appreciated only by one who knows and cares for the children.

Fifty-seven children reported that they were read to at home or that they read to their younger brothers and sisters, while 43 stated that their reading was a pleasure all to themselves. The large number who shared their reading was a pleasant surprise to us, evincing a companionship at home that we had hardly anticipated.

Twenty-eight children stated that they preferred to have help in selecting their books, 63 that they preferred to make their own choice, while nine said it depended. 49 said that they came to the library to get help in writing their compositions or in other school-work, while 51 said they did not, one proudly asserting, "I am capable of writing all my compositions myself," and another, seeming to think help a sort of disgraee, "I do not come to the library for help about anything at all."

Seventy out of the 100 children answering used no library but ours — the others made use of their Sunday-school libraries also.

An inquiry as to the books read since New

Year's, the questions being sent out in May, brought out the fact that an average of six books in the four and a half months had been read — not a bad average, considering that it was during term-time in the schools, when studies take up much of the child's otherwise spare time. Boys proved to prefer history and books of adventure, travel and biography, to any other class of reading; girls, books about boys and girls, fairy stories and poetry. The tastes of the boys on the whole were more wholesome, and the girls need most help here. It is not at all unlikely that it is chiefly the wars and combats in history which make it interesting to the boys, as they seem to go through a sanguinary phase in their development that nothing else will satisfy; but many of them will get their history in no other way, and since wars have been prominent in the past it is of no use to disguise the fact. Fairness to both sides would seem to be the essential in the writing of these children's histories and historical tales, since the ability to stop and deliberate and to make allowances is rare even in grown people and needs cultivation.

The question as to the best book the child had ever read brought in a bewildering variety of answers, proving beyond a doubt that there had been no copying or using of other children's opinions. While no list can be given, the reasons they offered in response to a request for them were often interesting. Girls wrote of "Little women": "It is so real, the characters are so real and sweet." "I feel as if I could act the whole book." "This story has helped me a very great deal in leading a better and a happier life." "It shows us how to persevere," etc. Boys like "The Swiss family Robinson" "because it describes accurately the points of a shipwreck and graphically describes how a man with common sense can make the best of everything." Another, "because it shows how some people made the most of what they had." Another, "It shows how progressive the people were." One liked "Uncle Tom's cabin" "because it describes life among the colored people and shows how they were treated before the war"; another, "because it is a true story and some parts of it are pitiful and other parts are pleasant." A boy of 12 says of "Grimm's fairy tales," "They are interesting to read, and I learn there is no one to give you wings and sandals to fly — you have to make your own." Another likes "John Halifax" "because it tells how a boy who had pluck obtained what he wanted and made his mark in the world." "Pluck," I imagine, in a boy's mind stands for the old virtue of the poets, "magnanimity," that included all the rest. Harper's story-books are still read and appreciated "because they tell me about different kinds of people's ways, about animals, and a little about history." Another child "learned games out of them, and how to tell the truth and the use of the truth."

A child of eight puts in a pathetic plea worth considering for the Prudy books, "because I understand them better than any books I have read." An incipient author says that she uses the library because "I make a good deal of stories and find pretty ideas."

Perhaps the most enlightening replies came in answer to the question, "Can you suggest anything which would make the library more interesting than it is now?" One delightfully reassuring boy says, "I like the children's library to stay just the same, and a boy who never went there would like it. I'll bring more boys." "Pictures of art" are requested, and "a set of curiosities from all parts of the world." As we regard the children of all nationalities and types crowding about the desk on our busy days we sometimes think we already have this latter item. "A prize for the best story every month." "More histories." "Pictures of noted men on the walls." "More fairy-tales." "More magazines." "Books showing how to draw." "A pencil fastened to each table." "Stories in Scottish history." "More books of adventure." "More funny books." "A chart of real and genuine foreign stamps." "Lectures for children between 10 and 14, with experiments accompanying them." "A one-hour lecture once a week by noted men on different subjects." "A book giving the value of celebrated paintings." "More books. The shelves look bare," as indeed they do after a rush-day. "Rules to keep the children in order," from a nine-year-old who has doubtless suffered. "Not to be disturbed by other boys for unknown crimes," says one mysterious victim of something or other. "Historical fiction." "Catholic books." "Tanks with fishes, in the windows." "An aquarium; children would enjoy seeing pollywogs change to frogs every time they came to the library." This is the comment of a little girl, I am glad to say. "School-books." "More amusement for little children." This was before we bought our linen picture-books. And the "Elsie books," and Oliver Optic, and Castlemon are vainly de-

sired by two or three. The general sentiment is pretty well voiced by one child who says, "The library is just perfect in about every respect."

We feel that with this enumeration of desiderata, the children's library has its work cut out for it for some time to come, and that these evidences of the children's likings and needs have removed a certain vagueness from our ambitions. With lectures and experiments, reading clubs, and possibly original stories, in contemplation, there is no danger of rust from inaction, especially as to obtain any one of these there are serious obstacles to overcome. But always and everywhere the library should put forward its proper claim of the value and use of the book — though in the word book I by no means include all that goes under the name. If there are lectures with experiments or lantern-slides, they should be attended by information as to the best literature on the subject and the children encouraged to investigate what has been printed, as well as to take in through the ear. There is no "digging" in lecture-going, and it is "digging" that leaves a permanent impression on the mind. The lecture should stimulate to personal research. From reading aloud together at the library in the evening, reading clubs may come to be formed, each with a specialty, decided by the tastes of the members. The writing of stories, particularly if the library selected the subject, might be made the occasion of the use of histories, biographies, travels, etc. Quiet games in the evening for the older children, of a nature to require the use of reference-books, would be strictly within the library's province. Personal talks with the children about their reading, if judiciously conducted, are always in order. With a generation of children influenced in this way to use books as tools and a mental resource as well as for recreation, and to find recreation only in the best-written books, the library constituency of the future would be worthy of the best library that could be imagined.

The bulletin-board is attracting attention generally as a means of interesting children in topics of current interest, and such a periodical as *Harper's Weekly* is invaluable when it comes to securing illustrations for this purpose. Sandwiched in among the pictures, we have occasionally smuggled in a printed paragraph of useful information or a set of verses, and our latest move, to induce more general reading of the periodicals, has been to analyze their contents on the bulletin, under the head of "Animals," "Sports," "Engines," "Short stories," "Long stories," etc. Boys who "know what they like" are beginning to turn to this analysis to see if there is anything new on their favorite topic, and to explain the workings of the board to other boys, and the desired end is gradually being brought about. As the references are taken down to make way for new ones, they are filed away by subject, making the beginnings of a permanent reference list.

*Birds*, the new magazine with its colored plates, is a boon for the children's room, and *The Great Round World* is good for the assistant-in-charge and the teachers who come to the room, as well as for the children.

In order to add to the number of books without overstepping our rules as to quality, we are beginning, though not yet very systematically, to look over the works of certain authors of grown-up books with a view to finding material that can be understood sufficiently by children to interest them. A number of Stevenson's books can be given to boys and girls, and we hope to find many others. Most children, I think, read books without knowing who has written them, and if we can induce them to learn to know authors and can interest them in a writer like Stevenson, we can feel fairly secure that they will not drop him when they are transferred from the children's room to the main library.

Perhaps it is best always to have a working hypothesis to begin with, in children's libraries as elsewhere; but we can assure those who have not tried it that facts are stubborn things, and the hypothesis has frequently to be made over in accordance with newly-observed facts, and theories may or may not be proven correct. The whole subject is as yet in the empirical stage, and the way must be felt from day to day. If the children's librarian lives in a continual rush, what "leisure to grow wise" on her chosen subject does she have? and if she is hurried constantly from one child to another, what chance have the children for learning by contact with the individual?, which, as Mr. Horace E. Scudder truly says, is the method most sure of results. This contact may be had most naturally, it seems to us, through the ordinary channels of waiting on the children, provided it is quiet, deliberate waiting upon them. We go out of our way to think out new philanthropies and are too likely to forget that,

as we go about our every-day business, natural opportunities are constantly presenting for strengthening our knowledge of and our hold upon the people who come to us — who are sent to us, I might almost say.

The registry and the charging-desks offer chances for acquaintance to begin naturally and unconsciously and for much incidental imparting of seed-thoughts. And it is in these every-day chances, if appreciated and made the most of, that the work of the children's library is going to tell. The necessity of especial training in psychology, pedagogy, child study, and kindergarten ideas, has been treated of recently in a paper before the A. L. A. There is no doubt that the "called" worker in this field will be better for scientific training, but let him or her first be sure of the call. It is quite as serious as one to the ministry, if not more so, and no amount of intellectual training will make up for the lack of patience and fairness and of a genuine interest in children and realization of their importance in the general scheme.

To sum up, the requisites for the ideal children's library, as we begin to see it, are suitable books, plenty of room, plenty of assistance, and thoughtful administration. Better a number of children's libraries scattered over a town or city than a large central one, since only in this way can the children be divided up so as to make individual attention to them easy. But if it devolves upon one library to do the work for the entire town, and branches are out of the question, something of the same result may be obtained by providing at certain hours an extra number of assistants. I can imagine a large room with several desks, at each of which should preside an assistant having charge of only certain classes of books, so that in time she might come to be an authority on historical or biographical or scientific or literary books for children, and the children might learn to go to her as their specialist on the class of books they cared most for. Perhaps this may sound Utopian. I believe there are libraries present and to come for which it is entirely practicable

## METHODS OF WORK FOR CHILDREN: THE CLEVELAND LIBRARY LEAGUE.

By Linda A. Eastman, *First Assistant Librarian Cleveland (O.) Public Library.*

"It is in the air," whispered a gentleman sitting next to me at the Philadelphia conference during an animated discussion of methods of work with children, and referring to the widespread interest in the subject which is marking a new phase in library progress. The facts which substantiate his remark would indicate that the time is ripe for the development of this phase: a full conception of the public library idea carries with it a necessary emphasis on the work with the young, for if the public, the great mass of the common people, is to profit greatly by its public library, it must be trained into the use of books — trained from childhood.

There is being forced upon us a realization of the inadequacy of any educational system which does not provide this needed training, and the result is already showing in the earnest efforts toward a wiser co-operation on the part of the two great educational forces, the school and the library; and in the closer and closer union of these two and one other force, the home, and the incidental co-ordination of church, society, and all other agencies, organized or individual, for the uplifting of mankind, lies the solution of the problem.

The library needs of a great city, as regards its children, have never been so fully set forth as in the paper presented by Rev. Mr. Fairchild at the Philadelphia conference,* and the attempts to look these needs squarely in the face, must result in an effort to meet them.

The system as proposed requires modification, but its main feature would stand, demanding that children's libraries be as numerous and available as are the public schools. The branch library should be near the school building, or, possibly, both for economy of building and administration and for closer co-operation, even under the same roof with the school, each keeping its own identity and doing its own work, but doing it better because of the proximity and help of the other. The library could occupy one wing of the building and have its own outside entrance, as well as one from the school; there should be a reference-room containing the ordinary reference-books for the use of all, which the children should be taught to use systematically in connection with their school-work; and there should be, preferably on separate

* L. J., Oct., 1897, p. 19.

floors, the adult and the children's circulating libraries, serving also as general reading-rooms, and each having its adjoining quiet study-room and a club-room. The large central hall, which is a feature of so many modern school buildings, might be utilized for lectures, concerts, and art exhibitions, and thus the building now unused, excepting during school hours, would become a centre of intellectual life for the neighborhood. Parents and teachers would meet more frequently and with good result; and, more important still, parents and children would have a common centre for their intellectual interests, which would be strengthened and cemented, with who can say what gain in family happiness. The placing of the children's library in a separate building from the adult would seem to be a mistake in principle, for the peril to the home life in the lack of common interest of the individual members of the family is one to be reckoned with and counteracted in every possible way, and there is constant danger that institutional work will unwittingly increase this peril instead of lessening it. The children's library, then, would be under the same roof with the adult, that parent and child might be encouraged to visit it together.

The branch library would be supplemented, as Mr. Fairchild suggests, by children's home libraries in districts where needed, these libraries being in charge of missionaries (in an intellectual and moral sense) whose labors would be with the straying lambs of the fold.

Such a system would make possible that needed element which was the keynote of Miss Adams' paper* —*personal contact* and *individual aid.*

It was an effort to supply this element more largely, if possible under existing circumstances, which led to the experiment of the Children's Library League — a movement which is at least proving that something more is needed than has been done for the children in the past. The league is not accomplishing that something as yet, and of itself never can do so; but if this attempt shall help toward the final result, it will have been worth while.

The October number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL (p. 151 – 153) gives the conference account of the formation of the Cleveland Library League last spring, and the objects in view in starting it. At the time of that report the membership had reached 3500. There was a greatly increased use of the library by league members throughout the summer, and, it is confidently believed, a better use. When the books were sent out to the schools this fall they were accompanied by a letter to the teachers, explaining the league and asking that all children who draw books through the schools be invited to join it, if they had not already done so at the library or its branches. A blank sheet headed with the league agreement was sent with each letter, to be returned with the signatures to the library, where the certificates of membership were then made out and sent to the children. The roll began at once to swell very rapidly, and at present the total number is 12,615.

The long-promised badges were awaited with great eagerness, and when they finally arrived were worn with pride by the members as an outward and visible sign of loyalty to the cause. The badge is a neat little affair of white metal, the design an open book bearing the words Cleveland Library League; it is going to be of great use is showing us which of the children using the library are members of the league. The members pay for their badges, which cost them three cents apiece.

Saturday afternoon, Nov. 6, was the date set for the league mass-meeting. And a mass-meeting it was! Music Hall, the largest auditorium in the city, was crowded to its utmost capacity, and a sea of eager, restless faces it was to look upon. Parents and teachers had been invited to attend, but there were few of them present; a great mistake was made — we realized it when it was too late, and we emphasize it that it may not be made by others — in not limiting admission to such children as were under the care of teacher, parent, or adult friend; as it was, the hall was filled and emptied again without an accident, but some of us went home afterwards to dream of dreadful things which might have occurred when that audience of nearly 5000 children was dismissed.

Judge Hutchins, the president of the Library Board, presided, and opened the meeting with a short address, in which he compared the work of the Library League with that of the Humane Society.

The words for the league song, written by Miss Glasier, were given, with their ringing chorus:

> "Oh, we are the League, the Library League,
> The League ten thousand strong,
> And if you value the bright new books,
> Join us and sing our song."

* L. J., Oct., 1897, p. 28.

After music and a reading, Mr. Brett made a few remarks somewhat as follows:

"Judge Hutchins has told you how the Library League originated and of its wonderful growth. The Library League was organized because in our work in the library we need your help to take care of the books, and have asked you to come together this afternoon because we wanted you to meet one another and to realize what a great association you were members of; and to realize how many earnest, active helpers we might count in our work. I would like to tell you many things about the library, but will only take your time to tell you of one part of its work and of the reason why I think we may count on your help. A large part of the work of the library is for the children and the young people. It supplies books to the schools which increase the interest of your studies and renders them more profitable. Your teachers are constantly referring you to these books, and we are supplying them. We also try to give you the best books. They do not belong to the library board, nor do they belong to those of us who have the pleasant duty of caring for them in the library. The library board holds them in trust for you and for the other people of Cleveland, who pay for them and own them, and have the right to use them. Now you know that it is just because there are so many of you who have the right to use the books that we need your help to take care of them. Pencils are so apt to make marks when they don't mean to, and leaves to have their corners turned down and become soiled, nobody knows how, and book covers to get wet and grimy, that it will take the keenest watchfulness of all the 12,000 members of the Cleveland Library League to prevent any of these things from happening to the books of the Cleveland Public Library. I am sure if we all work together in this way we can have a library which will be clean and beautiful, and a delight to us all."

The stereopticon views were the main feature of the afternoon. The series of six frescoes, the "Evolution of the book," from the Congressional Library, were thrown on the canvas, and the wonderful story they tell was explained by Professor Muckley, of the Public Schools. These were followed by numerous views of the great libraries of the country, and views of our own city.

Several features as planned for the program had to be omitted to shorten the exercises, and although the children, bubbling over with animation and enthusiasm, declared that they had had a good time, some of us were sceptical as to whether, after all, it had paid in the way in which we had meant that it should.

The league has become so large that we must depend upon reaching it in sectional meetings and in print, and a little inexpensive scheme for book-mark bulletins, which the children will get with their books, will, it is hoped, prove an effective medium of communication. There is no question but that the sentiment for the more careful usage of the books is resulting in a saving of them sufficient to pay for the printing of such bulletins; and the training in the idea that public property must be preserved and cared for is something which is sadly needed. By such means it may be possible to keep the children in touch with the spirit of the league, and also to greatly influence and direct their reading. To the latter end organized work is being begun on a small scale in the shape of reading clubs composed of league members, under the direction of older persons; the work which might be done along this line seems almost endless, and the little which can be done is pitifully insufficient. New York, with its city history clubs, seems to be starting a movement worthy of being followed.

The one great point which our league seems to be proving conclusively is that our city — and ours is not an exception in this respect — contains thousands of children who are not being reached by the ordinary methods of library work, children who are being drawn to the library by it as an advertising medium; and that many of them are the children who most need the broadening, brightening, sweetening influence of good books, one needs but to see them to be assured. The league in itself is sufficient to reach but a fraction of these children. We were told by a teacher of an instance of several members of the league to whom the coming downtown to that league meeting was the event, almost, of their little lives — so narrowed have their lives been within the limits of the poor suburb where they live, that they actually did not remember having seen our public square before that day. To such the league is much, but not enough, nor are books sent them through the schools enough. They, of all children, need to have the world broadened for them by having a library, a bright, attractive branch library, within easy reach, and to be made to feel that it is theirs to enjoy.

## JUSTIN WINSOR.

JUSTIN WINSOR, LL.D., librarian of Harvard University and president of the American Library Association, died at his residence in Cambridge, Mass., on October 22, after a brief illness. Dr. Winsor's sudden death came as a shock to his many friends and associates at home and abroad, for he seemed still in the prime of vigor and activity, and had only this summer, in connection with the International Conference, taken up again active relations in the library association, with which his name was for so many years intimately associated. Since the death of Dr. Poole in 1894, his death is the heaviest loss that has befallen American librarianship since it became recognized as a definite calling, for though his later fame as an historian has overshadowed his eminence as a librarian, he was one of those library pioneers who have made possible the profession as it exists to-day.

Dr. Winsor was born in Boston, January 2, 1831, of a line of sturdy New England ancestry. He entered Harvard with the class of 1853, among his classmates being Charles W. Eliot, with whom, as president of Harvard, he was later to have such close relations. After graduation he went abroad and continued his studies in Paris and at the University of Heidelberg, giving special attention to bibliographical and historical research. In 1868 he was appointed superintendent of the Boston Public Library, succeeding Prof. Jewett, having proved himself the man for the place in the remarkable report prepared by him as chairman of the visiting committee of the library trustees, just previous to Prof. Jewett's death. Until July, 1877, he directed the affairs of the Boston Public Library, and during this period of nearly 10 years' headship he proved his administrative genius for the work, and left his permanent impress upon that library, and indeed upon librarianship in the United States. At the date of his election the Boston Public Library contained about 144,000 volumes and 40,000 pamphlets, and had a yearly circulation of about 178,000. When he left it the main building and the eight branches established under his direction contained 314,000 volumes and 100,000 pamphlets, while for 1876 the circulation was 947,621.

His acceptance of the position of librarian of Harvard University in the summer of 1877, as successor to the venerable John L. Sibley, whose term of office dated from 1856, gave admirable scope to his rare organizing power and scholarly tastes. Under his direction that library has reached a degree of completeness and usefulness in its special field equalled by few university libraries, while at the same time his connection with it gave opportunity for the scholarly labors with which his name is most frequently associated.

Dr. Winsor's connection with and influence upon organized library work continued almost without a break during what may be termed its first decade — the period from 1876–86, in which the foundations were laid on which the "library movement" of to-day rests. During that formative period, his strong common sense, keen intellect, and executive ability were potent factors in shaping the policy of the American Library Association, in whose ranks he was a foremost figure. From the beginning the project of organized library effort had his hearty co-operation, and the first paper in the first number of the initial volume of the LIBRARY JOURNAL was "A word to starters of libraries" from his vigorous pen. He was the natural choice for president of the Association at its organization meeting in the centennial year, and he held that position uninterruptedly until 1885, when he was succeeded by Dr. W. F. Poole, remaining thereafter one of the councillors of the Association, At the 21st anniversary conference in Philadelphia in June of this year he was re-elected president, and in that office he represented the American Library Association at the London International Conference with dignity and distinction, as he had done 20 years previously at the International Conference of 1877. For the last eight or nine years Dr. Winsor's increasing historical labors had withdrawn him to a considerable degree from library relations. The St. Louis conference of 1889 was the last that he attended, and his utterances upon library topics were of late years but few and far between, though during the early years of the JOURNAL he was one of its most constant and notable contributors.

It is as an historian and scholar that Dr. Winsor was most widely known. His literary activity was remarkable, and his voluminous contributions to American historical literature were of permanent importance and value.

His *magnum opus* was the great "Narrative and critical history of America," in eight volumes, published during 1884–1888, which he edited, and which was essentially his own conception. He also edited the "Memorial history of Boston," in four volumes, published during 1880–82; and he had planned a series of studies of early American history, of which three volumes have appeared —"Christopher Columbus," 1891, "Cartier to Frontenac," 1894, and "The Mississippi basin," 1895. Among his other works may be mentioned the "Reader's handbook of the American revolution," 1880; "Bibliography of the original quartos and folios of Shakespeare," 1876; and "Was Shakespeare Shapleigh?" 1886. He was also editor of Harvard *University Bulletin*, of the *Bibliographical Contributions* of Harvard University Library; contributor to the American Historical Association, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and other learned bodies, and author of numerous valuable pamphlets on historical and bibliographical subjects. Dr. Winsor was vice-president and corresponding secretary of the Massachusetts Historical Society and had been president of the American Historical Society. His funeral services were held in Appleton Chapel, Cambridge, on Oct. 25, and were attended by a large representation of librarians, and by many distinguished citizens, including the governor of the state.

## THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

*THE POST-CONFERENCE TRIP, Continued.*

THE week comprising July 26–31 was a free week left open to the members for trips in any direction that suited their fancy. Paris, Canterbury, Isle of Wight, and Ireland were some of the places visited by them, while others remained in London. Saturday morning, July 31, found over 50 of the A. L. A. reunited at the Liverpool st. station in London, ready to leave for Cambridge. They found themselves in the enormous crowd which leaves London to enjoy that British institution, Bank Holiday. The university town was reached a little after 12, and, lunch over, the party proceeded to visit the various colleges under the leadership of Mr. Jenkinson of the University Library, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Pink. St. John's, Trinity, the University Library, Corpus Christi, Kings, Queens, and others were included. After dinner there were walks along the "backs" and boat-rides on the Cam. On Sunday various churches were visited, and some strayed off to Girton and Newnham. In the afternoon a most enjoyable reception was given by Mayor Darwin, son of Charles Darwin, and his wife. Private receptions were also given, and the Cantabrigians made a lasting impression upon the hearts of their visitors by their cordial kindness and thoughtful attentions.

### ELY AND PETERBORO'.

Monday, Aug. 2, the A. L. A. arrived at Ely after an interesting ride through the fen country of England. Ely Cathedral was, of course, the objective point of interest, though a few took in the unique chapel of Prior Crauden as a side issue. This first of the great northern cathedrals was of intense interest, with its beautiful nave, its original Norman aisles, and its exquisite octagon and choir; it was carefully studied in the short time allowed, and then the line of march was taken to the station for Peterboro'. The view of the front of Peterboro' was a sad disappointment, for it was completely covered by a staging, put up for necessary repairs. The interior, however, well repaid a visit, and one of the deans kindly pointed out some of its many interesting peculiarities. The party reached Lincoln in time for a late dinner, and while that interesting ceremony was being enjoyed the arrival of Mr. Briscoe, of Nottingham, was announced. He had not been able to resist the pleasure of greeting his fellow-librarians once more, and he was warmly welcomed.

### LINCOLN AND YORK.

On Tuesday morning Mr. Briscoe and the local librarian were on hand to show the visitors in the brief time allowed all that could be crowded into it. First to the Guildhall, then up to the cathedral, which was viewed from the outside, and later the whole cathedral was shown by the dean. Hurried visits to the remains of the Bishop's Palace, the Roman Gate, and the old castle, filled the allotted time, and then the party went on to York at 12.30 p.m. Dinner was had at York, and then came a visit to the cathedral, which was shown by a remarkable verger. To those who knew, it mattered little if his architecture was somewhat mixed, and to those who didn't, it mattered less. The grand cathedral was enjoyed, and every part of it was explored by the party, and then a weary walk around the walls was undertaken, and the "Bars" visited.

Wednesday was a free day, with an excursion to Scarboro' for those who wished. About 20 went, and enjoyed it greatly. Some stayed at York, saw St. Mary's Abbey, and were received informally by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, while a delightful trip to Ripon Cathedral and Fountain's Abbey was taken by others. The cathedral at Ripon is small, but has several features of interest, one being a Saxon crypt under the nave.

### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE.

Thursday morning, on again to Durham, where sits crowned the queen of all English cathedrals, seemingly as immutable as the everlasting hills, and speaking to all of the old feudal days when the bishops of Durham held regal state, and even defied the king himself. An agreeable attendant showed the cathedral, chapter-house, and library. The castle was also visited, the party being admitted at wholesale rates, threepence a head. Then a thunder shower broke upon them, and amidst a pouring rain a retreat was made to the station, where the train was taken for Newcastle. Here a delightful program of entertainment had been devised. At 10.30 on Friday the visitors were received in the council chamber by the mayor and council, and speeches of welcome were made and acknowledged by Mayor Goolden, Sheriff Beattie, Alderman Stephens, and Mr. F. M. Crunden. Thence to Fish Quay, where the Tyne Commissioner's boat was waiting to take the party on a trip up and down the river. All the interesting features on either bank of the river were pointed out — the Elswick works where warships for different nations were being constructed, flour-mills, gas-works, engine-shops, one of them formerly having been Stephenson's, etc.; etc. On the return trip the party was greatly pleased with the halt made abreast of the Wellesley training ship, where, at a signal, the ship and rigging literally swarmed with boys, who sang the Jubilee song, "Victoria our Queen." A welcome lunch was served on board the boat. An intended landing at the Pity Me salmon fishery, to see the salmon nets drawn in, was prevented by a sudden shower, which stopped, however, as the boat arrived at the Fish Quay. Some of the party proceeded to the Public Library, but the greater part, under the guidance of Mr. Heslop and Mr. Homes, mounted the never-ending stairs of the Norman Keep, and explored its intricate passages. A visit to the cathedral church of St. Nicholas, the Library, and Natural History Museum followed, and then a hurried retreat home to prepare for the dinner in the Grand Assembly Rooms, where, after the feast, toasts were drunk and speeches made by Dr. Thomas Hodgkin,

author of "Italy and her invaders," Dr. David Masson, Mr. Flower, Mr. Crunden, and others. A prompt departure from the Assembly Rooms was caused by a reception awaiting the visitors at the "Lit. & Phil." (otherwise Literary and Philosophical Society; but no native, however, knows it by the latter designation). Dr. Hodgkin, the president of the "Lit. & Phil.," received, and delighted all with his cordiality and wit. Many residents of Newcastle were present, and the evening passed all too quickly. One pleasant incident was the presentation to the A. L. A. of Dr. Watson's history of the "Lit. & Phil." by Dr. Hodgkin, and at 10 p.m. reluctant adieus were bade to the kind hosts, with many expressions of appreciation and gratitude.

SCOTLAND: EDINBURGH.

Saturday, Aug. 7, the line of march was resumed, and the pilgrims left at 9.30 a.m. for Melrose, Abbotsford, and Dryburgh. We wish we were able in a few words to describe the beauties of that ride through the Cheviots — the high, wild moors, with sometimes but a solitary tree in sight, sheltering a little white-washed cottage nestled in its tiny garden, the wild, bare pastures with their circular stone folds in which to shelter the sheep from the driving storms, the banks of purple heather, the clear running streams, all were full of beauty and poetry. The train was late at Melrose, and the visits to Abbotsford and Dryburgh were all too hurried, but the party made the most of what they saw, and many decided it to be the most enjoyable of all days. A hasty race across the long footbridge at Melrose to catch a tardy train was fortunately successful, and at a late hour the happy, tired travellers were distributed among their respective hotels in Edinburgh, where a good night's sleep prepared them for the following day. What each one did on Sunday it would be impossible to tell. Early church, late church, St. Giles, the Castle, Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Crag, Calton Hill and Holyrood, were all visited. One interesting discovery was made in Grey Friars' Churchyard. On the large stone commemorating those who had suffered for conscience's sake, a real *see also* was found, in a reference for further information to several named authors and their works.

Monday at 10 a.m. the clan was gathered in the museum of the Municipal Buildings under the leadership of Mr. Morrison, librarian of the public library, Mr. Ferguson, and other friends, and shown through the church of St. Giles, the Parliament House with its law courts, its great hall, its Advocates' Library of over 300,000 volumes, and the Signet Library of over 65,000 volumes, then to the Castle, with its many places of historic interest and its superb situation, then down High street, past the site of the "Heart of Midlothian," John Knox's house, and the Tron church, to Holyrood. Here another halt was made, the beautiful chapel examined, and the palace explored, the party being shown by express permission through the Queen's private apartments. Then came a delightful drive around Arthur's Seat, a return through some other parts of the old city which had not been previously seen, and a hurried visit to a magnificent new hall arranged principally for concerts, in which are placed four organs. At about three o'clock the party alighted at the beautiful library building, a gift to the city from Andrew Carnegie, and found a most satisfactory feast awaiting them in the handsome reference-room. In the absence of the Lord Provost, who was attending to the King of Siam, Bailie Gulland presided, and after the feast the usual toasts to the Queen and President were given, followed by expressions of good-will from both the Scots and Americans. Luncheon over, the brakes were again at the door for a most charming drive of over nine miles (much of the way by special permission through Lord Rosebery's park) to the great Frith of Forth bridge. A tug took the party half way across the Frith, and immediately under the bridge, which is a mile long, and then gradually a slight idea of its magnitude dawned upon them. The drive back to Edinburgh was by another route, and on arriving there it was necessary to exchange farewells and thanks.

STIRLING TO GLASGOW.

Seven o'clock Tuesday morning found the procession again on the move for Stirling Castle, which was reached a little after eight, and thoroughly invested and investigated. Then on to Callander by train, where the brakes were taken for the Trossachs. Each one remembers the beauty of that ride, and the trip over Loch Katrine; and who will forget the wonderful swing of the kilt of the bagpiper as he marched beside the coaches with a dignity comparable only to that of a drum-major? From Loch Katrine to Loch Lomond was beautiful, but a change had come over the spirit of the weather, and when Loch Lomond was reached the rain began to fall, and only glimpses of the wonderful beauty of the scene could be had from under the shelter of umbrellas.

GLASGOW.

The party was met at the landing at Loch Lomond by Mr. Barrett, librarian of the Mitchell Library of Glasgow, who, with his cordial companions, did much to enliven the watery voyage. Glasgow was reached that evening, and marching orders received for the next day. That strictly business methods prevail in this fine city was strikingly shown by the program for Tuesday, issued on the arrival of the visitors, on which not only the exact place, hour, and minute were noted, but a list of streets through which they were to pass, and the order in which the carriages were to be driven. So a little before 9 on Wednesday morning all were ready to start, and though the clouds wept and continued to weep all the morning, the comfortable carriages provided were dry and cosey, and the visitors saw enough of Glasgow to realize how fine a city it is. The first visit was to the great Mitchell Library, where the circulation is over half a million, and the number of

readers much larger. Mr. Barrett, the librarian, showed with just pride the workings of the institution and the great reading-room, where hundreds are constantly reading books and magazines. Then to Stirling's and Glasgow Public Library, in charge of Mr. Patterson, to Baillie's Institution Free Library in charge of Mr. Simpson, and then to the cathedral, which was shown by Mr. Chalmers, architect, who pointed out its monuments, beauties, and peculiar construction in a clear and able manner. From the cathedral to the grand City Chambers, thence through the beautiful West End Park to the magnificent buildings of the university, where the University Library, with more than 100,000 volumes, and the most interesting parts of the buildings were inspected, and the famous Hunterian Museum was visited, in charge of Dr. Young. An hour only was devoted to glimpses of the riches contained in these collections, and then the line of march was taken to the Windsor Hotel, where a substantial lunch was waiting. The Lord Provost presided. The usual toasts and kind remarks followed. As this was to be the last formal reception of the American party, an added note of heartiness was expressed by the speakers in their farewell remarks, and a warm appreciation voiced by the Americans of all the wealth of kindness and courtesy shown them by their English and Scotch cousins.

At 1.30 the Americans were driven to the station, and then came the breaking up and dispersion of the party, which had journeyed together so pleasantly for nearly seven weeks. Some were to remain still longer and revel in the beauties of Scotland, England, and the Continent, and only 24 turned their faces homeward. At Liverpool a number, with the travelling habit still strong upon them, went to Chester and delighted their eyes with a sight of its quaint rows, walls, and cathedral. Others found time for the Art Gallery and Library in Liverpool, and Mr. Cowell, of the Liverpool Library, was the last to wave farewell as the *Scythia* left the wharf.

### HOMEWARD BOUND.

Of the voyage home little need be said, but that little emphatic in dispraise of the Cunard Co. for retaining such a steamer in the passenger service, and taking good money for the tortures suffered on board. All state-rooms are in the stern, immediately over the machinery, and when, as happened in this case, the weather is rough, the screw is out of the water about one-fourth of the time, and sleep is impossible. A fellow-sufferer sends this characterization from Kipling, which is perfect:

> "A ram-you-damn-you liner
> With a pair of bucking screws."

On the morning of August 23 the party landed in Boston, coming safely through the perils of the Custom House, and each one took his or her way home, happy in the memory of a most rich and delightful experience and glad once more to be on native soil.

## THE CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The fine new building of the Chicago Public Library was formally opened on the evening of Oct. 9, or "Chicago day," the 26th anniversary of the great fire, when a largely-attended reception, with appropriate exercises, was held in the beautiful delivery-room. Addresses were made by Charles Thornton, corporation counsel of Chicago, by A. F. Hirsch, president of the board of trustees, and by Rev. Dr. E. G. Hirsch, and the building was inspected by throngs of admiring citizens, visitors being guided by the library staff, who explained the various departments and their fittings. On Monday, Oct. 11, the library opened for business, and since then the regular routine has been carried on, although the final fittings and arrangements of the building are still to be completed.

The building, which has been in process of erection for about five years past, has cost nearly $2,000,000, and must rank as one of the finest library structures in the United States. Its cost was met by legislation permitting a special library tax, from which a gross annual appropriation of $500,000 was made available for a period of six years, a sum, however, that sustained considerable shrinkage on account of uncollected taxes. Now that the building is completed, a one-mill tax is authorized, which will result in an annual income of about $240,000. The site was chosen by the aldermen on April 2, 1890, and the foundations were laid in 1893. The building is located on Dearborn Park, formerly occupied by the Fort Dearborn Military Post, and it gives house-room to the local G. A. R. — which occupies a fine separate series of rooms, on a 50-year lease — as well as to the library.

The ground-plan is rectangular, the eastern side fronting on Michigan avenue, and the northern and southern bounded respectively by Randolph and Washington streets. In style the building is massive, severe, and imposing, of gray Bedford stone, smooth finished, but the interior has been decorated with lavish richness, and elaborate care has been given to all details. The accompanying plans and view make clear the arrangement of the building.

The main entrance is at Washington street, where a great arch with magnificent bronze grille work and decorations leads into a 20-foot vestibule, on either side of which are two elevators, while in front is the grand stairway, 15 feet broad, leading to the delivery-room on the second floor. A second entrance is given on the Randolph street side, which is a simple portico with doric columns. The first floor is chiefly given up to the administrative work of the library. It contains the two delivery station rooms, where books are received from and given out to the delivery wagons; a telephone-room; the staff bicycle-room; the repair-room; a large room, now given up to public documents, but in which a bindery may some day be installed; a room in which the department for the blind will be placed, and the bound newspaper room. A mezzanine floor gives accommodation to the two well-lighted cataloging rooms, which are directly under the librarian's office and over the

repair-room and bindery, are fitted with a book elevator and telephones, have direct communication with the stacks, and are connected by a stairway with the librarian's office and the ground floor. On the other side are the janitors' and watchmen's quarters.

On the second floor the south end is given up to the great delivery-room, 136 x 49 feet in diameter, rich in mural decorations, mosaic work, and beautiful fittings, lighted by the large centre dome, and backing directly upon the three-storied steel stack-room, with its immediate shelving capacity of 360,000 v. Occupying the north half of this floor is the G. A. R. Memorial Hall, the remaining space being given up to a registry-room, business office, order department, and librarian's room.

The third floor is chiefly devoted to the beautiful reading-room, 140 feet long, 55 feet wide, and 33 feet high, extending along the entire northern front, and lighted from all sides; connecting with this is the reference-room, 139 x 39, well lighted, with a seating capacity of 176, and shelving for 2000 v., to which free access is given. On this floor also are the public catalog-room, a reference stack-room, special study-room, and a periodical stack-room. The top floor contains an art department of three rooms — reading-room and two stack rooms, and several rooms to which no definite purpose has yet been assigned; while the basement is devoted to the heating, lighting, and ventilating apparatus, vaults for storage, etc.

Including the shelving in all departments, the total book capacity of the library is 2,000,000 v., though present arrangements are made for but 300,000 v. The hours of opening for the circulating department are from 9 a.m. to 8.30 p.m., except Sunday; for the reading and reference departments, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. On Sunday these latter departments are open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## A LIBRARY LEAGUE AT THE PRENDERGAST LIBRARY.

The Prendergast Library of Jamestown, N. Y., has followed the example set at Cleveland, by establishing a Library League, which was started in the latter part of October. A children's room was evolved out of what was formerly the trustees' room, and it was first opened on the league day, when a children's reception was held for one afternoon. The room was decorated with autumn leaves; there were pictures on the walls; open shelves were filled with about 300 selected books, classed under such headings as "How to make things," "Stories about people," "Fairy stories," "Indians," "Stories of war, soldiers and sailors," etc.; while the new low chairs were grouped invitingly about the small oak tables, on which lay children's magazines. Near the entrance was hung a framed copy of the honor roll of the Library League. Over 1000 children attended the opening, and all seemed interested and enthusiastic in the league project. The establishment of the children's room and the league had been announced by Miss Hazeltine before the opening at the various private and public schools, so that there was general anticipation among the children, and the success of both has been assured from the beginning. The Maxson book-mark has been adopted for use in the children's department.

## THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

On Nov. 1, according to the promise made by Mr. Young, the new Congressional Library was opened for readers. The great reading-room was completely equipped and ready for business, and the departments, except those of fine art and music, were also in readiness. About 350,000 v. were in place on the shelves at the date of opening. It is intended to make the reading-room a place for readers rather than for sightseers, and on the opening day, in addition to the large sign, "For library readers only," hung at the entrance, a watchman was stationed at the door to make inquiry of visitors whether they came to read or to inspect. Only the former were admitted. Readers were waiting admittance at nine o'clock, when the doors opened, and the attendance during the day was large, despite unfavorable weather. The working of the book-carrying machinery proved satisfactory, and it is stated that the time consumed in securing a book from any stack or "deck" is less than five minutes. The call-slip is filled in by the reader and handed to the attendant, who slips it in a pneumatic tube connected with the stack where the book wanted is shelved, at the same time pressing a button to notify the stack attendant that an order is on the way. At the stack the order is received, a return message sent by pressing a button, and the book deposited in the carrier apparatus and started on the journey to the reading-room. On the first day but one slight mishap was reported to a single carrier. A number of volumes were sent on this day to the Capitol by means of the underground book railway, which proved thoroughly effective and satisfactory. The library hours are now from nine a.m. to 10 p.m., and it has been decided to have the building open on Thanksgiving day and other holidays. Possibly Sunday opening will follow.

The reading-room for the blind has already proved its usefulness, and though it contains as yet but comparatively few volumes, its use is steadily increasing. It is in charge of Miss Etta Giffen. The plans for its development include a series of free readings, to be given for an hour every afternoon, for the pleasure and instruction of its special class of users.

The estimates to be submitted by the Librarian of Congress for the next fiscal year have been nearly completed by Mr. Young. They include a request for a second assistant librarian at $3000 per year, and for an appropriation of $10,000 for the purchase of books instead of the $4000 heretofore appropriated.

Perhaps the episode in connection with the new building, which has attracted most general recent attention, was the discovery of the omission of Thomas Moore from among the poets

whose names are inscribed on the walls of the building — an omission that aroused the lightnings of the Hibernian societies, and created a general tempest in a teapot in the columns of the press. In the Washington *Times* of Oct. 6 Mr. Spofford gave a simple statement of the matter, that should have put a quietus upon the protests and the fiery and generally inaccurate paragraphs regarding the "omission." He said: "No attempt was or could be made to inscribe a catalog of even the most eminent poets upon the walls of the library, from obvious want of space. As to British poets and their relative merits, while no agreement in opinions can be expected, the few for whose names room could be found are writers ranked among the foremost by the verdict of successive generations of readers. It is no detraction from the merits of Moore or Cowper or Dryden, that they are not found inscribed, any more than it detracts from the merit of Hume that Gibbon was chosen for a statue of a great historian. Still less is there any cause to misrepresent the choice as 'a studied attempt to insult Irishmen' by omitting Moore and Davis, and 'giving prominence to Froude and others who have libelled Ireland and her sons.' The name of Froude is not to be found in the building."

## THE KANSAS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY.

On Sept. 1 the new building of the Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library was formally opened, through the medium of a public reception, held for two successive days from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. During this time nearly 20,000 citizens inspected the building, which was beautifully decorated with palms and cut flowers. Music was furnished, and visitors were received by the members of the board of education and their wives, and by the librarian, Mrs. C. W. Whitney. The assistants acted as guides in the different departments, and the high school cadets served as ushers.

Those familiar with the history of the Kansas City Public Library fully appreciate all the new building means as the happy ending of a long struggle with insufficient support and lack of accommodation. The library was started in 1877, and its growth has been slow and hampered, but by persistent effort a solid foundation of 30,000 volumes has been laid, and in the new building it is assured of a prosperous and useful future.

The decision that a new building was a necessity was reached by the board of education — which acts also as the library board — in the winter of 1893. The matter was taken up by the Commercial Club and vigorously urged, and in the spring of 1894 the question of voting an appropriation of $200,000 for the purpose was submitted to the people and was carried by a large majority. The site of the building cost $30,000 additional; plans were accepted in the latter part of 1895 and work was begun in the spring of 1896. The building is located on a lot with a frontage of 132 feet and a depth of 144 feet. A broad vestibule gives entrance to the rotunda, at the end of which is the delivery-counter and the stack-room, made by the Fenton Company, with a capacity for 125,000 volumes. Opening into the rotunda are the reading-room, cataloging-room, reference-rooms, assistant librarian's office, children's room and the reception-room, making it possible for the librarian to oversee each department. The most pleasing feature of the new building is the children's room, a large, airy southeast room, wherein all the juvenile books and periodicals are found, and where the children may select the books from the shelves. Portraits of authors and other prominent people are mounted on cardboard, and are exhibited on anniversary days. This room is in charge of a trained assistant.

On the second floor is a special room for the high school students, a woman's club room, and several reference-rooms, together with the offices of the Board of Education. In the basement is a fully-equipped bindery, under the management of the librarian.

The most important step in connection with the new building was the decision, made in August of this year, that after Jan. 1, 1898, the low membership fee hitherto charged should be abolished and the library should be entirely free to the public. It is also planned to establish delivery stations in several outlying schoolhouses, and to increase the purchase of books as largely as possible during the next few months. A number of gifts have been received since the installation in the new building.

## Library Association of the United Kingdom.

*TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, LONDON, OCT. 20–22, 1897.*

The 20th annual meeting of the L. A. U. K. was held in the rooms of the Society of Arts, London, during Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Oct. 20–22. Naturally, any general meeting of the association came rather as an anti-climax after the great International Conference of July, but the association was unwilling to let the Jubilee year pass over without the usual annual meeting, more especially as it marked the 20th anniversary of its foundation.

The first session, on Wednesday morning, was opened with the address of the president, Mr. H. R. Tedder, which was an historical sketch of the development of the L. A. U. K. during the past 20 years, and of the corresponding progress in library affairs. The recent International Conference was duly noted, and the pending change in the organization of the association, by which it would become an incorporated body, was mentioned as giving opportunity for extended and effective work. Private book-collecting also had attention, and an excellent summary was given of the qualities necessary in librarianship.

The report submitted by the council stated that since September, 1896, 18 places had adopted the public libraries acts; during the year delegates had been appointed to promote a superannuation bill for municipal officials; the necrology included Robert Harrison, one of the founders of the association, Mr. Archer,

late librarian of the National Library of Ireland, and J. B. Bailey, former librarian of the Royal College of Surgeons. The announcement of the resignation of J. Y. W. MacAlister, honorary secretary, was acknowledged with deep regret.

Dr. Garnett spoke briefly of the character and work of Panizzi, in recognition of the Panizzi centenary. Mr. Sidney Webb treated "The functions of the public library in respect to political science," stating that as the 19th century had been the century of natural science, the 20th century would probably prove the century of political science, and urging that public libraries should occupy themselves in collecting materials for this study, and make themselves the future museums of sociology. Mr. Welch, Mr. F. T. Barrett, Dr. Garnett, and others contributed to an interesting discussion of the subject.

"The public library and the schools" was discussed by Mr. Ballinger, of Cardiff Public Library. "The durability of modern book papers" was considered by J Y. W. MacAlister, and in the ensuing discussion H. B. Wheatley explained the investigation of the subject undertaken by a committee of the Society of Arts.

In the afternoon Cyril Davenport, of the British Museum, dealt with "Library bindings" in a useful and practical manner; W. H. K. Wright, of Plymouth Free Public Library, gave some interesting "Reminiscences of the Library Association, 1877–97"; T. Mason described "Local prints and records of a London parish (St. Martin-in-the-Fields)"; J. Potter Briscoe, of Nottingham, contributed an account of "The Bergen Public Library," the largest free library in Scandinavia; and H. D. Roberts, of St. Saviour's Public Library, explained a "System of issuing periodicals in the reading-room."

At Thursday's morning session the first paper was "On the conduct of a scientific society," by R. Steele, assistant secretary of the Chemical Society, in which he cited as chief problems the choice of books, the storing of elementary text-books, and the question of ephemeral and obsolete literature. Three papers by advocates of the Dewey decimal classification followed — "Notes on shelf-classification," by T. W. Lyster, "The Dewey notation and some recent criticisms," by Stanley Jast, and "The decimal classification and relative location," by R. A. Peddie. An animated discussion followed.

"The national libraries of France and Great Britain and their catalogs" were described by Mr. McFarlane, of the British Museum, who was followed by R. K. Dent with a paper entitled "Titles, or traps for the unwary," in which were pointed out the frequent misleading adoption of different titles for the same book. The advantages of "Public library bulletins" were urged by F. A. Turner, of Brentford, who quoted some opinions to show that the printed catalog as now issued was doomed, and that the reading public was better served by receiving at frequent intervals cheaply printed lists of additions. Mr. Thomas Formby, sub-librarian of the Liverpool Public Library, spoke with authority on "Public reference library experiences," and discussed the problem of helping readers, the treatment of complaints, the technicalities of cataloging, and the training of boy assistants. E. Wyndham Hulme, librarian of the Patent Office, gave an interesting account of "English patent law," tracing the birth of industrial monopolies on the Continent, the origin of the Elizabethan industrial monopolies and the history of patent law to the rise of the patent specification in the 18th century. Mr. Cotgreave, of West Ham, in "A subject index to English literature," described the elaborate compilation upon which he is now occupied. In the evening a conversazione was held in the gallaries of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, Piccadilly.

On Friday morning F. T. Barrett, of the Mitchell Library, Glasgow, in the form of "Brief notes on some minor matters in library practice," offered practical suggestions on the repairing of books, the keeping of unbound parts of periodicals, marks for identification, special designs for end papers, labels, and stamps. A discussion followed, in which numerous questions were put to and answered by Mr. Barrett. "The progress of library work in villages" was the subject of a paper by Sir Edmund Verney, who spoke of what had been done at Middle Claydon, Bucks. In the course of the discussion Mr. J. R. Boosé, of the Royal Colonial Institute, called attention to the fact that the agents-general for the colonies would, on application, supply village libraries with books about Greater Britain. "The need of endowed scholarships in the training of librarians" was presented by Frank Campbell, of the British Museum. Joseph Gilburt, of Day's Library, had a paper on "Fiction: some hard facts about it," vigorously condemning slum-fiction and tenth-rate novels. Attention was drawn to "Some old treatises on libraries and librarians' work," by Mr. A. Clarke, assistant librarian, Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, and the question of "The statistics of English publishing and the need of an official bibliography" was taken up by W. E. A. Axon, who urged the necessity of a complete register of all books and pamphlets issued in the United Kingdom. Mr. Wheatley and President Tedder took part in the discussion that followed, the latter referring to certain proposals on the subject made by him in a paper read before the Bibliographical Society. Basil Anderton gave some instances of "The value of forgotten volumes." "The Birmingham Old Library" was described by C. E. Scarse; Frank Curzon had an informing paper on "Yorkshire village libraries"; and Herbert Batsford contributed some valuable "Suggestions on the formation of a small library of books on ornament and the decorative arts," in which he also mentioned the books he regarded as indispensable in a reference library, as well as those desirable as representing special art industries.

In the evening the annual dinner took place at the Hotel Cecil, at which Mr. Tedder presided, and Dr. Garnett and Mr. Leslie Stephen spoke.

## American Library Association.

*President:* Justin Winsor, Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.
*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

### *TRANSACTIONS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.*

THE executive board of the A. L. A. met at the Clarendon Hotel, Oxford, England, July 24. Present: President Justin Winsor, Vice-Presidents F: M. Crunden and Hannah P. James, Secretary Melvil Dewey, and Treasurer Gardner M. Jones.

The secretary and recorder were authorized to appoint needed assistants for their work.

Standing committees and annual reporters for the year were appointed, according to the schedule of organization following.

The president and secretary were made the program committee for the Chautauqua meeting; the local committee, Miss M. Emogene Hazeltine, James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, and associates.

It was voted that the papers so far as practicable be printed and distributed in advance of the meeting; that all papers should be read in advance by the program committee, the time being limited from five to 20 minutes.

The chief two topics for the 1898 meeting were selected as "The training of librarions and assistants" and "The library's allied agencies for popular education," with special reference to the Chautauqua system, reading circles, study clubs, correspondence schools, extension courses and similar educational agencies outside the public school and the public library.

It was voted that there shall be, as at the Philadelphia meeting, an Elementary Section and a College and Reference Library Section for topics specially pertaining to those respective fields.

The secretary was directed to express in the name of the Association its thanks to the numerous institutions and individuals who had done so much to make the visits of the delegates to the International Library Conference memorable for hospitalities and courtesies extended. MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary.*

### *A. L. A. ORGANIZATION*, 1897-98.

*President:* Justin Winsor, Harvard University Library.
*Vice-presidents:* Rutherford P. Hayes, Ohio State Library, Columbus, O.; Hannah P. James, Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; Frederick M. Crunden, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.
*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.
*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.
*Recorder:* Helen E. Haines, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York City.
*Executive board:* The President, Ex-president (W. H. Brett, Cleveland Public Library), Vice-presidents, Secretary, Recorder, and Treasurer.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Publishing Section:* W: C. Lane, Athenæum, Boston (for three years); George Iles, New York City (for three years); W: I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library (for two years); R. R. Bowker, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York City (for two years); Melvil Dewey, New York State Library (for one year).
*Finance:* James L. Whitney, Public Library, Boston; W: E. Foster, Public Library, Providence, R. I.; C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.
*Co-operation:* C. W. Andrews, John Crerar Library, Chicago; W: H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.; F. H. Hild, Public Library, Chicago; A. J. Rudolph, Newberry Library, Chicago; Mrs. Z. A. Dixson, Chicago University Library, Chicago.
*Public documents:* R. R. Bowker, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York City, and associates.
*Foreign documents:* C: H. Gould, McGill University Library, Montreal, and associates.
*Library schools:* F: M. Crunden, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo., and associates.
*Dr. W: F: Poole Memorial Fund:* F. M. Crunden, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.; J. N. Wing, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City; W: I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library; G: E. Wire, Evanston, Ill.
*Co-operation with Library Department of N. E. A.:* J: C. Dana, Public Library, Denver, Col., and associates.
*Library editions of popular books:* T: L. Montgomery, Wagner Institute, Philadelphia; C: R. Dudley, City Library, Denver; C: K. Bolton, Public Library, Brookline, Mass.; B. C. Steiner, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.; W. T. Peoples, Mercantile Library, New York City.

ANNUAL REPORTERS FOR 1898 MEETING.

*Gifts and bequests:* Caroline H. Garland, Dover (N. H.) Public Library.
*Buildings:* William E. Foster, Providence Public Library.
*Legislation and state aid:* Joseph L. Harrison, Providence Athenæum.
*Travelling libraries:* F. A. Hutchins, secretary Free Library Commission, Madison, Wis.
*Catalogs and classification:* George E. Wire, Evanston, Ill.
*Open shelves:* John Thomson, Philadelphia Free Library.
*Children's rooms and reading:* Caroline M. Hewins, Hartford Public Library.
*Branches and delivery:* H. C. Wellman, Boston Public Library.

TRUSTEES OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Norman Williams, Chicago, Ill.; J. C. Hutchins, Cleveland, O.; G. W. Williams, Salem, Mass.

A. L. A. COUNCIL.

*Term expires* 1898: Mrs. E. M. Fairchild, New York State Library; Hannah P. James, Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; J. N. Larned, Buffalo, N. Y.; Justin Winsor, Harvard University Library.

*Term expires* 1899: W: C. Lane, Boston Athenæum; Theresa West Elmendorf, Buffalo, N. Y.; Caroline M. Hewins, Hartford (Ct.) Public Library; Caroline H. Garland, Dover (N. H.) Public Library.

*Term expires* 1900: E. H. Anderson, Carnegie Free Library, Pittsburg; Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston; Katharine L. Sharp, University of Illinois Library, Champaign; H: M. Utley, Detroit (Mich.) Public Library.

*Term expires* 1901: H: J. Carr, Scranton (Pa.) Public Library; J: C. Dana, Denver (Col.) Public Library; Melvil Dewey, New York State Library; Mary W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

*Term expires* 1902: R: R. Bowker, LIBRARY JOURNAL, New York City; C: A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.; W: I. Fletcher, Amherst College Library, Mass.; W: E. Foster, Providence (R. I.) Public Library.

### *MEMORIAL OF DR. W. F. POOLE.*

THE bronze bust of Dr. Poole, made under the direction of the A. L. A. committee in charge of that memorial, will shortly be completed. The clay model has been pronounced an excellent one, but the first casting was not a success, and the committee was obliged to order another one. The second casting has not yet been completed, but it is thought that it will be satisfactory. The bust is to be placed in the Chicago Public Library as a memorial gift of the American Library Association.

## *A. L. A. PUBLISHING SECTION.*

### PRINTED ANALYTICAL CARDS FOR SOCIETY AND OTHER SERIAL PUBLICATIONS.

WITH the co-operation and support of the Harvard University, Columbia University, Boston Public, John Crerar, and New York Public Libraries, the Publishing Section will begin the issue in January, 1898, of printed cards for articles contained in certain current society publications and other scientific, archæological, historic, and economic serials, both in English and in foreign languages. The list of publications to be analyzed will be printed as soon as it is completed. The cards will differ from those now issued for current books in not suggesting subject headings, references, or classification numbers, but each title will be made sufficiently explicit by the addition when necessary of a note or of explanatory words in brackets, so that the subject of the article shall be clear.

Two cards to each title will be furnished, one for an author entry, the other for subject entry. Upon the upper margin of the latter may be written in a subject heading to agree with the system of the catalog in which the card is to be inserted. Additional cards may be had at a low price if a library can ordinarily use three, four, or more cards per title to advantage.

Subscriptions will be received either (1) for the whole set of cards or (2) for the cards for articles in specified periodicals. To subscribers for the whole set the price will be not more than $1.50 per 100 cards, or 3 cents per title, while extra cards can be furnished at 40 cents per 100. To subscribers for the cards for articles in specified periodicals the price will probably be not more than $2.25 per 100 cards or 4½ cents a title, with extra cards at 50 cents per 100. All of these figures will be reduced if a large enough number of subscriptions is received, and it may easily result that the cost of the cards will not be over $1 per 100.

From 100 to 150 publications will be analyzed to begin with, and from 3000 to 4000 titles may be expected in the course of the year.

A more detailed statement will be printed shortly and distributed to all likely to be interested.

### INDEX TO SUBJECT HEADINGS.

This useful book having been now for some time out of print, the Publishing Section will issue a new and revised edition to be edited by Mr. G. M. Jones of the Salem Public Library, Mr. C: A. Cutter of the Forbes Library, Northampton, and by Miss Edith D. Fuller of the Episcopal Theological School Library, Cambridge, and instructor in dictionary cataloging at the Library School, Albany.

All who have used the book are asked to send in to Mr. Jones before December 1 any corrections and additions that have occurred to them, and any suggestions they may like to make for its improvement.

### PORTRAIT INDEX.

The work on this is well under way. All of Mr. Samuel's material has been copied, many offers of help have been received, and cards from collaborators are coming in daily. But there are still many valuable books which must not be omitted, and more help is wanted in order to bring them in.

The work of indexing is not difficult, and any one who has had some practice in library work, particularly in dealing with proper names as in cataloging, will find it interesting and pleasant. Co-operation is earnestly requested from all who can spare the time. Suggestions of books which ought to be indexed, which the editor may have overlooked, will be welcome. It is desired to get all the material collected this winter and to begin to print next summer. Offers of help should be addressed to the editor, Mr. W. C. Lane of the Boston Athenæum, or to Miss Nina E. Browne, assistant secretary of the Publishing Section, at the Boston Athenæum.

### BOOKS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Miss Hewins' brief list of "Books for boys and girls" was printed last spring and the Publishing Section would like to see it spread very widely over the country. It is intended for parents and teachers rather than for children themselves, and we hope that libraries and school boards will like to provide it for free distribution. With this in view the price has been set at $3 per 100, or in quantities of 500 or over at $2 per 100. The price of single copies is 10 cents.

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

EXTENSION BULLETIN no. 20 of the University of the State of New York contains the report of the Public Libraries Division for the year ending Sept. 30, 1896, with statistical tables regarding the libraries of the state. The report, which bears the publication date of June, 1897, but was not issued until this autumn, is, as usual, a careful, detailed, and informing statement of library affairs in New York. The director says: "No one familiar with existing library conditions as compared with those of four years ago can fail to be impressed with multiplying signs of progress throughout the state. The number of free libraries has increased from 238 in 1893 to 351 in 1896. Their resources increased by 186,100 volumes during the last year. Their circulation was 2,293,861 in 1893; it advanced to 3,933,623 in 1896. The average daily circulation was 10,777 volumes in 1896 as compared with 6285 in 1893. It advanced at the rate of 2157 a day during the last year. No small part of this remarkable increase is due to the substantial encouragement given by the state. The expenditure of the public money for books has been carefully guarded. Every dollar granted means another dollar raised from local sources. The long list of books reported are closely scrutinized by the book board of the state library."

During the year Inspector W. R. Eastman visited 134 libraries in 41 counties, of which number 62 had not been previously reached. Of the visited libraries 20 were given university charters, three were admitted with existing charters, and 10 were registered as maintaining a proper standard; 50 received grants of public library money. There were 253 travelling libraries sent out, and 34,890 v. were read by 6109 readers. There are the usual exhaustive statistical tables, giving detailed information on the libraries of the states in various combinations. The list of "50 best books for a village library" issued for 1895 by the New York State Library is included, and there are short reports of the Cleveland conference of the A. L. A. and of the library associations of the state.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

LIBRARY CAMPAIGN IN WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN.

A LIBRARY campaign in the interests of the Witter Travelling Libraries of Wood County, was conducted by the officers of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Sept. 27 – Oct. 2, 1897.

Mrs. W. B. Raymond, Grand Rapids, Wis., head librarian of the travelling libraries, Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, and F. A. Hutchins, secretary of the Free Library Commission, made a driving tour through Wood county, stopping at farm-houses, corner groceries at the crossroads, post-offices, school-houses, etc., to inspect the libraries and to ascertain the ways in which the libraries might be improved. Library stations were visited at Randolph, Blenker, Milladore, Sherry, Auburndale, Arpin, Vesper, Marshfield, Pittsville, Dexterville, Babcock, Nekoosa, Saratoga, Port Edwards, Four Mile Creek, Biron, Centralia, etc., and public meetings were held at Dexterville, Nekoosa, Biron, and Four Mile Creek. This preliminary campaign resulted in a large attendance at the librarian's institute, which was held at Grand Rapids, Wis., on Oct. 1 and 2, 1897, under the auspices of the board of directors of the Witter Free Travelling Libraries and the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. The sessions were opened with an address on "Travelling libraries and study clubs," by Mrs. Charles S. Morris, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs and a member of the State Library Commission. This address was followed by a talk on "The child and his book," by Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian of the commission. Senator J. H. Stout, chairman of the commission, then spoke on the relation which the national library should bear to the smaller libraries and citizens of the country.

The second session was devoted to a discussion of travelling libraries, with papers on "The public school and the travelling library," by H. E. Miller, Dexterville, Wis.; "How to get the boys to read," by Rev. W. B. McClelland, Nekoosa, Wis.; "How to get the girls to read," by Mrs. S. Elliot, Saratoga, Wis.

J. D. Witter, the founder of the travelling library system in Wood county, then spoke on the purposes of the libraries, in which he paid a high tribute to the interest and enthusiasm of the 27 librarians. Mr. Witter stated that he wished to greatly extend the number of libraries in the county, hoping thereby to reach every family in the district. Miss M. E. Tanner, Stevens Point, Wis., then made an interesting talk on "Travelling pictures." County Superintendent Havenor then spoke on "The district school library," followed by G. S. Ford, Grand Rapids, Wis., on the "Relation of the school to the public library." G. G. Williams, city superintendent, led a discussion of the subject.

Miss L. E. Stearns then gave an account of the driving tour, in which she had found everywhere an intense appreciation of the libraries. There was found in most communities a desire for more of the best children's books — a want which will soon be supplied.

F. A. Hutchins, secretary of the library commission, closed the sessions which he had conducted, with words of encouragement to the librarians of the travelling libraries.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE first meeting of the association after the long vacation was held Sept. 10, 1897, in the city hall, Alameda, as guests of the Free Public Library of Alameda. President Rowell presided.

The association was cordially welcomed to Alameda by C. L. Weller, a member of the board of trustees, and in responding Mr. Rowell congratulated the board on their new, comfortable quarters in the city hall, and commended the liberal policy that opens the shelves to free access by the readers.

The first speaker of the evening, E. W. Maslin, in his "Experiences of a library trustee" gave a vigorous address on the duties of both the librarian and the trustee, making an earnest plea for the best possible service in these responsible positions.

In talking about "The library of a metropolitan newspaper" M. P. Wiggin said "it violates every tradition of the ordinary library in that it disclaims the idea of storing up the sum of human knowledge for the benefit of posterity. It ignores the past within certain obvious limitations, and deals almost exclusively with the present, with, however, an eye open to the future, and with a fixed and settled plan of allowing the new to push aside and supersede the old." The library, Mr. Wiggin said, was entirely one for reference, largely biographical, and designed to assist in the immediate preparation of that which the reading public most demands — news. The method of indexing and filing clipppings was described at length.

To illustrate and give point to his paper on "Primers" P. J. Healy, trustee of the Mechanics' Institute, exhibited a copy of "A primer for the use of the Mohawk children," printed by Fleury Mesplets, at Montreal, in 1781. This primer is so rare that Mr. Pilling, in his "Bibliography of the Iroquoian languages" (Wash., 1888, p. 137–139), notes only the copy in the British Museum. Like many valuable "finds" this book came into the hands of its present owner accidentally. It was purchased with a number of miscellaneous books from the legal representative of the Kirkland family, in whose possession it is said to have been for 100 years. It was used by Daniel Kirkland, a missionary to Oneida Indians. The primer is bound in leather and is in excellent condition, considering the character of the book.

Mr. F. B. Graves talked on "Library economics," and Miss Anna Power presented a paper on the free shelf system lately inaugurated in the juvenile department of the San Francisco Free Public Library.

A number of short addresses were made, and a brief discussion on "What are public libraries to do with their surplus books?" developed no practical solution of this vexed question.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

THE October meeting of the association proved to be one of the most successful in its history.

The paper on "Travelling libraries," by W. P. Kimball, in particular, made a strong impression. The speaker said: "To-day the public library is no longer a luxury, it is a necessity of modern life; it stands as one of the four great broadening and uplifting forces of civilization: the press, the pulpit, the school, and the library, each having its special mission of preparation, direction, and education of mankind." After describing the uses of the library to all classes of society, Mr. Kimball presented statistics showing the lack of library facilities in California, and showing that while the library movement is steadily growing there are still more than 50 per cent. of the inhabitants of the state who have no access to public libraries.

The district school libraries, numbering 3200, while productive of untold good in quickening the intelligence and implanting a love for reading, were in no sense a substitute for public libraries, their intent being to furnish reading for school children and not for the varied wants of a community.

A concise history of the travelling library movement followed, and the results to be obtained from this stimulus and encouragement to profitable reading by supplying fresh, well-selected books to small isolated communities, and the very important consideration that they create a sense of need for a home organization. After deploring the delays caused by attempting to procure state aid in inaugurating this great movement, the speaker said: "Let us not be content to wait; a long interval ensues before the legislature assembles, which ought to be improved by experimental work. This association has friends, for its home is in California, where no appeal for the intellectual well-being of the state falls on unwilling ears or unresponsive hearts. Let us ask our friends for the donation of $3000 with which to equip 50 travelling libraries to send to villages and towns among the mountains and valleys, the mines and forests of California during the next year.

"There is another urgent need in library work. In a number of the smaller towns there is a strong desire to form a local library. To them sympathy and encouragement can be extended. Not a few of these would develop into free public libraries, if the way to take such a step was pointed out and other directive efforts suggested." Mr. Kimball closed with a stirring appeal that the association lend its aid and influence to assist these willing workers and endeavor to "make the free public library a force universal in California."

As a result of this paper the following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this meeting of the Library Association of Central California, that a system of travelling libraries is essential to the diffusion of

knowledge throughout the state and the promotion of the welfare of its citizens. That we heartily endorse the establishment of such libraries and pledge the support of this association to the same."

To further this object the following was also adopted:

"*Resolved*, That this association undertake the collection of statistics regarding libraries of general circulation throughout the state."

President Rowell next introduced Mr. H. S. Allen, who give an account of the "Object and methods of the Press Clipping Bureau," explaining the method used in filing scraps and showing examples of work accomplished.

The session closed with a symposium on "the selection of books for a public library," in which Messrs. John S. Hittell, F. J. Teggart, and P. J. Healy took part.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

No. 1 of the "Publications" of the Library Association of Central California, dated May, 1897, has been issued. It is devoted to the address on "The relation of life to the higher education," by Prof. Arley Barthlow Show, of Leland Stanford, Jr., University, delivered before the association at its meeting on Jan. 10, 1896 (12 p. D.), and in typography and form is most creditable to its publishers. The one criticism to be made is that the imprint date does not correspond with the actual date of issue — an example of carelessness that a library club, above other bodies, should not set to regular publishers.

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

THE first meeting of the Colorado Library Association was held on the evening of Oct. 8 in the principal's office of the High School, District No. 1. There was a small attendance, and plans for the year were informally discussed, without any regular program. The association has in view the issuing of a union list of periodicals, arrangements for which will be discussed at the November meeting.

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

THE fall meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held at the State Normal Training School at Willimantic on Oct. 27. There was a good attendance when the meeting was called to order at 11 a.m., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Miss Scott, the secretary.

F. B. Gay, the president of the club, delivered a short address, reviewing library affairs in the state since the last meeting. The death of Dr. Justin Winsor, president of the A. L. A., was alluded to, and a committee of three — Miss C. M. Hewins, Prof. Addison Van Name, and Miss Scott — was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions. Mr. Gay then introduced the subject of the undertaking by the association of some definite work which should be useful to the library world. Mr. James, of Middletown, endorsed the suggestion, and thought that the work should be bibliographical, while Miss Scott suggested that it deal rather with a plan for the disposal of duplicates by the establishment of a clearing-house committee. It was voted that a committee be appointed to consider the subject, of which the president should be an *ex-officio* member. The committee named comprises W. J. James, W. K. Stetson, Jonathan Trumbull, Miss Mary A. Richardson, and Miss Josephine S. Heydrick.

The Philadelphia Conference of the A. L. A., with the Delaware Water Gap trip, was described by Miss Mary A. Richardson, of New London, and James L. Whitney, of the Boston Public Library, gave an interesting account of the English post-conference trip of the American librarians. Luncheon was served at the Hooker House, and the afternoon session was opened with a paper by Miss Ellen D. Larned on "Early libraries in Windham county," a talk on "The libraries of Abington," by Miss Mary M. Osgood; and an address on "Helpful reading for the agricultural classes," by Prof. B. F. Koons, president of Storrs Agricultural College, who gave a short list of books on agricultural subjects, and urged that libraries should help farmers and their wives to study nature.

A general discussion followed, in which one member asked for a list of "old-fashioned restful novels that end pleasantly." Some of the books mentioned in response were "Lady Lee's widowhood," "Inside our gates," "Cranford," and "A week in a French country house."

*GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

*Treasurer:* Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

THE first annual meeting of the Georgia Library Association was held in Macon, Ga., Oct. 28 and 29. The day sessions were held in the reading-room of the Public Library, and the public meeting was held on the evening of the 28th in the historic chapel of Wesleyan College — the first college to be established exclusively for the higher education of women.

The city of Macon is proverbially hospitable and the librarians were given a cordial welcome. It was the first meeting of the kind ever held in the south, and it proved a memorable occasion.

The first session was called to order at 3 o'clock, Thursday, Oct. 28, Miss Wallace presiding. The president's address was short, and outlined the history of the library movement in the south. Among other things Miss Wallace said: "Unlike the usual optimistic report of retiring officers I propose to touch upon the seamy side of library work in the state. Georgia stands to-day without proper legislation allowing taxation for the support of the public library."

The list of new members was then read, and the name of the club was changed from Georgia Library Club to Georgia Library Association. The offer of the *Educational Journal* was accepted, making that journal the official organ of the club. Mr. Hughes Reynolds, of Rome, was appointed secretary *pro tem*, in the absence of Major Hubner, and Miss Campbell, of the Augusta Library, acted as treasurer, in the absence of Miss Field. A paper on "Travelling libraries" was presented by Mrs. Eugene Heard, of Middleton, which was discussed by several speakers in relation to library advancement in Georgia. Mrs. Heard also told of the favorable consideration which the Georgia legislature would probably give to the bill creating a public library commission for the state, and a petition to the General Assembly for an early consideration of the bill now before it was passed unanimously. A petition to the trustees of the Georgia Normal and Industrial College to add a library training school to its curriculum was also passed.

The public meeting was called to order in the chapel of Wesleyan College at eight o'clock in the evening. There was a large attendance of townspeople, and the exercises were pleasant and profitable. The session opened with music, and Miss Wallace then made a short address, in which she explained that the association aimed to obtain, 1, the necessary library legislation to permit taxation for the support of free libraries; 2, the appointment of a public library commission, whose duty will be the supervision of the library interests of the state; 3, the establishment of a library training school for the purpose of giving instruction in library economy; 4, the establishment and support of more and better equipped libraries; 5, the cooperation of librarians and the interchange of ideas so necessary to the advancement of any profession.

A series of short addresses on the library, its place in public education, and its support through women's clubs, were made by Prof. D. Q. Abbott, Mrs. J. K. Ottley, G. C. Matthews, of the Macon *Telegraph;* Mrs. W. B. Lowe, J. R. Nutting, Mrs. Charles Read, and others, and the evening was closed with a few happy remarks by Prof. Abbott.

On Friday, Oct. 29, two sessions were held. The first opened at nine o'clock with an excellent paper by Mrs. Nina Holstead, of Columbus, on "The children's room." Mrs. Moses Wadley spoke on "The American Library Association and the state clubs." "The Lagrange Woman's Club Library" was described by Mrs. Enoch Calloway, and "The public library as a philanthropic movement" was discussed by Mrs. M. R. Campbell. In the afternoon Prof. Moseby, of Mercer University, read a paper on "College libraries"; Mrs. Barbrey, of the Macon Library, presented "Classification and cataloging"; Miss Prosser, of the Milledgeville Girls' Industrial and Normal School, read a paper on "Library management," and Rev. F. W. Barnett gave a delightful talk on "Books and libraries." Miss Wallace, the president then called Mrs. Eugene Heard to the chair, and offered a resolution of thanks to the people of Macon for their charming hospitality, which resolution was adopted by a rising vote. Upon motion the convention then adjourned *sine die*, and the members attended a pleasant reception held in their honor at Wesleyan College.

In its management and results the meeting proved a gratifying success, and it should be effective in strengthening the association for its future work. Too much praise cannot be given to Mrs. Nora L. Barbrey, librarian of Macon Public Library and chairman of local committee, for her efficient and persistent efforts to make the meeting a success.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.

*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison st., Chicago, Ill.

*IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

THE eighth annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association was held in the Women's Club parlors of the Y. M. C. A. building, at Des Moines, on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 12 and 13, 1897, and was one of the most successful in the history of the association. This was the first meeting of the association since its reorganization as a separate body. There was an attendance of 40 members, representing 25 different libraries, from all parts of the state. The president, W. H. Johnston, of Fort Dodge, presided.

The session on Tuesday morning opened with the enrolment of the members present, and the reports of officers and committees. President Johnston then delivered his annual address, which was a review of library progress in Iowa, noting the new libraries established in many small towns, and devoting considerable attention to the travelling libraries conducted by the state library authorities. Travelling libraries were the subject of an interesting talk by Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, who described the operation and far-reaching influence of the system in Wisconsin. Mrs. Lana D. Cope, librarian of the Iowa State Library, also spoke of the work in Iowa. The advisability of keeping libraries distinct from the control of school boards was also discussed, Miss M. E. Ahern, of *Public Libraries*, citing Indiana and Michigan as examples of the unfortunate results of mingling those two branches of popular education.

The afternoon session was devoted to a con-

sideration of the "Organization of small town libraries," conducted by Miss Stearns, in the absence of Miss Virginia Dodge, of the Cedar Rapids Public Library.

Miss Stearns' presentation of the subject was as comprehensive as it was animated and delightful. She first took up the different agencies by which libraries have been established, and of which she believed the press to be the most powerful. She cited several cases showing where libraries had been established owing to the newspapers of the towns keeping everlastingly at it. In Racine, Wis., every Saturday night for two years there appeared in the two local papers articles advocating the establishment of a public library. At the end of the time the library vote, which had been defeated two years before, was carried by a majority of 1600. Schools and school children were also important agencies, and lecturers could do something for the establishment of a library, providing they be advertised in the right way. "Don't," she said, "announce that so-and-so will speak on the 'mission of public libraries.' Rather advertise that there will be a free lecture, absolutely no collection, on 'What our town needs most.'" Woman's clubs are, of course, recognized as very powerful agencies in the establishment of libraries; mass-meetings are only effective providing some action were taken before adjournment. Everybody's business is nobody's business, and a meeting of a few people where something is done is of more value than a dozen mass-meetings. House to house canvasses are useful providing it is a house to house canvass and no neighborhoods are neglected. Excellent suggestions were made regarding the control of the library, the choice and qualifications of a librarian, the selection and arrangement of the books. Open shelves were advocated, and the importance of the children's room emphasized

The evening session was opened with an address on "The danger line in fiction," by Johnson Brigham, editor of the *Midland Monthly*, after which a pleasant informal reception was held. On Wednesday morning the subject of "The relation of school to library" was opened in a paper by Hon. Henry Sabin, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in which he advocated the establishment of the school libraries as supplying the missing link between schools and public libraries. The question-box followed, and there was a general discussion of points in library administration and routine.

"How to stimulate interest in the library" was a paper by Judge H. E. Deemer, with which the afternoon session opened. The subject was divided into two parts: 1, as it concerned the library; and 2, as it concerned the public. A paper on "Small town libraries," by Joseph R. Orwig, was submitted and read by title. The election of officers was then held, with the following results: President, W. H. Johnson, of Fort Dodge; Vice-president, W. H. Payne, of Nevada; Secretary and treasurer, Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines. A committee on legislation was appointed and instructed to exert every possible legitimate influence upon the next legislature for the creation of a state library commission. The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Iowa Library Association that a state library commission should be provided by law, and the committee on legislation is hereby instructed to bring the matter properly to the attention of the general assembly and urge its adoption.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Miss H. C. Fernald, State College, Orono.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Alice G. Chandler, Town Library, Lancaster.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Boston.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

THE Massachusetts Library Club held its annual meeting Oct. 26, at Medford. A perfect autumn day and an attractive program promised a large attendance, a promise well kept by the presence of over 300 persons. We first visited the library, on a hillside overlooking the Mystic, a home-like, attractive place, as is apt to be the case when a generous dwelling-house is skilfully remodelled. A new stack has just been added, which struck all for its simplicity, and light and cheerful aspect, as an ideal book-room. After a few words of welcome from Rev. Mr. De Long, chairman of the board of trustees, who spoke of the work accomplished by the librarian, Miss Mary Sargent, with praise, which gratified without surprising us, we walked to the new High School building, where the school board had placed at our service for the meeting as fair an audience-hall as ever received a peripatetic association.

Mr. Lawrence, chairman of the school committee, greeted the club, and after Mr. Putnam, the president, had expressed our satisfaction with the city, the weather, and the hall, the meeting was called to order.

Mr. Putnam spoke of the loss which the club and the library profession had suffered in the death of Dr. Winsor, librarian of Harvard University, and referred the question of further action to the club, whereupon it was voted, upon motion by Mr. Lane, that a committee be appointed to report upon a resolution later in the day. The president named Mr. Lane, Mr. Foster, and Miss Mary Sargent as the committee. A committee to nominate officers for the coming year was appointed, consisting of Mr. C. A. Cutter, Miss Thurston, Miss L. S. Williams, Mr. Bolton, and Mr. Jones.

Mr. Lane then, asking leave to speak for the Publishing Section, described the work which it is hoped to undertake in issuing printed cards for articles contained in the more important serials, such as the transactions of the learned societies, particularly in philology, history and other non-scientific fields. He also called

attention to the new edition of the "Subject headings" in preparation,[1] to Miss Hewins' new selected list of books for children,[2] and to the need of more workers upon the index to portraits.[3]

Miss Nina E. Browne reported upon an investigation undertaken as a sequel to the discussion at the last meeting of the club, at Norton, Sept. 9, to elucidate the fine systems in use throughout the country. Circulars with detailed inquiries had been sent to 84 libraries, and much useful information had been acquired.

It was voted that the material be put in order and offered to the LIBRARY JOURNAL as a contribution from the club.

Miss Browne, as chairman of the Fiction List Committee, reported that subscriptions amounting to $40 had been received, and that there seemed to be no likelihood that the work could be resumed by this club.

The report of the treasurer being submitted, showed in the treasury $90 life membership fees in bank, and $31.02 in cash, and was accepted.

The secretary's report summed up the work of the year, gave reasons for thinking that the work of the secretary's office should be divided, and concluded with a motion requesting the executive committee to consider the matter and report such an arrangement if it appeared expedient. The report was accepted, and the motion adopted.

Professor Charles E. Norton gave a charming and stimulating address upon "The choice of books." Gladly would we have it before us in full, but here only the briefest summary can be given. After referring to the loss to the profession of librarians, to scholars, and all interested in learning, through the death of Mr. Winsor, Mr. Norton said, in considering the choice of books, the most striking fact is the multiplicity of books and the consequent difficulty to the average mind in making selection. There is a true relation between the rise of the individual during the last 200 years and the vast increase of the expression in books of individual thought and opinion. The essential difficulty is that there are very few who carry their education far enough to have a right to an independent opinion, or whose characters and intelligences are so disciplined as to give their opinions any considerable value. There is in this country a great lack of respect for expert opinion which is likely to bring upon us misfortune.

"It will help us in choosing if we recognize the fact that very few books are essential to a good education. Lowell spoke of four, or at most five indispensable books. I would be willing to reduce the list to three, feeling that from them could be drawn the essentials of a good practical education. Homer gives us the most simple, the most dignified, the most notable representation of the man of common daily life, making him by power of imagination our contemporary. Dante paints for us man touched by his spiritual instincts, man seeking to reconcile the difficulties of this life with his interpretation of its relation to a spiritual life. For the next we have Shakespeare; we may turn to his works as we turn to nature itself, to find out the truth of things, and learn to understand man better than if we trust to our own judgment. To these Mr. Lowell added Cervantes and Faust, but I question his judgment, and would place them on the second shelf. With these five authors, and perhaps a few more, the private individual would have all the essentials for a good education, for education is not the accumulation of facts. It is the power of a book to discipline thought and character that gives it a claim to be considered literature. Still there is a natural curiosity to extend the list, and some good books are published every year.

"The first thing for a library is to get rid of a vast deal of lumber by selecting a few good reference-books. A good dictionary, like the latest edition of Webster, and a good encyclopædia like Chambers' are the corner-stone for any library.

"The small public library need not expend much for books in science. Outside of the essential books the aim should be to get such books as record the history of man. Foremost I place good editions of the older poets, because in them the nature of man is most clearly seen; through them one may receive inspiration for his guidance in life; they are, too, in this country the only considerable sources for the nurture of the imagination.

"We are in large measure the product of past races in their struggle upward to a higher civilization. Our library should contain some well-chosen histories; there are some entitled to rank but a little below the poets both on account of their literary merit and their faithful record of past generations that have indirectly influenced our own age. We are cut off from the older races and have fallen into the habit of encouraging a spirit of self-appreciation. The advice has been given: 'Do not try to get much in the way of history except American history unless you have a great deal of money to spend.' No more immoral as well as unprofitable advice could be given. The man who has learned the dates of all the battles in the Revolution, or the succession of the presidents, has learned nothing of any value whatever. A knowledge of the causes and effects of the battle of Marathon or of the Reformation is of vastly greater importance. We need comparatively few books on American history, and these should be such as will suggest principles worthy of application to the questions that come up for decision every day in our government — among such books are those written by John Fiske.

"After history comes biography, especially autobiography. The letters and journal of Sir

[1] In charge of Mr. Jones, Mr. Cutter, and Miss Fuller.

[2] Books for boys and girls: a selected list. 1897. 31 p. (A. L. A. annotated lists; small series.) 10 cents singly, 100 copies, $3.

[3] The preliminary lists of books to be indexed has been printed from the L. J., and can be had on application at the Boston Athenæum.

Walter Scott make us acquainted not only with a man of high and lofty genius endowed with human sympathy, but also with a world that lifts us out of our petty and narrow surroundings into a serener and nobler life.

"Books of travel should have a place on our shelves, and should be selected for their literary merits as well as for their power to add to our knowledge of men and things. Many books of travel have no value because they record the impressions of uneducated people. The character of a man like Nansen would make his experiences valuable and interesting wherever he might go. It is particularly desirable to have copies of the older books of travel, such as Marco Polo and Hakluyt's voyages.

"Finally, the public library should always be made a delightful place, adorned with engravings or photographs of the best works of art. Its books should be beautifully bound, for a good book should be treated with respect. Following that rule we may be able to exclude a mass of worthless books. Above all make the young people feel that the library is a pleasant place to come into."

After enjoying a hearty lunch and inspecting the school building the club reassembled for the afternoon session. The secretary being obliged to return to Cambridge, H. C. Wellman was chosen as secretary *pro tem.* Mr. Lane, for the committee, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That on the death of Justin Winsor, LL.D., librarian of Harvard University, and president of the American Library Association, the Massachusetts Library Club desires to express its sense of the high value of Dr. Winsor's services to librarianship and to learning in America. Standing for many years at the head of his profession, he united in a remarkable degree the accurate and extended learning of the older generation of librarians with the administrative force and understanding of the needs of the hour, which are demanded of the modern librarians.

"His administration of both the Boston Public Library and the Harvard College Library has had its effect on libraries throughout the country. The Public Library he brought into vital contact with the people to a degree not achieved before and in a way which has stimulated other libraries. In the College Library the influence of his liberal administration has been not less important to the library and to college education. His readiness to meet the wants of the faculty, and to administer the library in the interest of the elective system fostered a change in the methods of study in the University which would have been impossible without the co-operation of the librarian.

"As a bibliographer he worked in many lines, and as a historian he has set in order for other students the materials in the field which he made his own, and has had the good fortune to finish a well-rounded task, beginning with a history of his native town published nearly fifty years ago, followed by a history of the city which he served, and by a monumental work on the history of America, supplemented by the story of the geographical discovery of America from the time of Columbus and his companions till the occupation of the continent was won.

"So great was the respect for his judgment and position that but few of the larger libraries of the country have not at some time sought his advice and profited by his counsel always freely given to those who asked it. In his death we have lost 'a master and a friend.'"

On recommendation of the committee which submitted the resolution, it was voted, that, in order that the memory of Dr. Winsor's life and work might be brought before the members of the club in a more fitting manner than was then possible, the executive committee be requested to provide that a suitable memorial paper be presented at the next meeting of the club.

Mr. Cutter, for the committee on nominations, reported as follows: For president, W. H. Tillinghast; for vice-presidents, W. L. R. Gifford and Miss Caroline A. Blanchard; for secretary, Hiller C. Wellman; for treasurer, Miss Abby L. Sargent. No assistant secretary being provided for in the constitution, the committee made no nomination for such officer, but recommended that the executive committee appoint an assistant secretary *pro tem.*

Mr. Cutter then reported further that he had been informed that Mr. Tillinghast felt obliged to decline the honor of the nomination, and the report having been referred back to the committee, the committee nominated for president Miss Alice G. Chandler, and for the other offices renewed the previous nominations, and the secretary being instructed to cast one ballot for the nominations, the persons named were duly elected. On motion of Mr. Foster it was unanimously voted that W. H. Tillinghast be made a life member.

The subject of the day — reports upon the new books of the year in various branches of literature — was then taken up. The lists of books drawn up by those in charge of the subject divisions had been printed and distributed to members as material for discussion, and each list was described and commented upon at greater or less length. Mr. C. H. Morss, Superintendent of Schools in Medford, had spoken on educational works in the morning. Mr. John Graham Brooks now described what of note had appeared in social science, and was followed by Mr. George T. Little, who described his experiences with new books of reference, which he defined for this purpose as books that will answer questions quickly. Mr. H. L. Koopman presented the list of books in philosophy, and Mr. F. H. Hedge discussed the list of biographies. Mr. W. E. Foster read a valuable paper upon the new works in history, which ought to be printed in full, but which the writer cannot attempt to epitomize; the same remark may be made of the report on books of geography and travel by Mr. John Ritchie, Jr.

In speaking of the science list, Mr. N. D. C. Hodges urged that small libraries, to avoid loading their shelves with moribund books, should buy scientific handbooks or treatises sparingly; such when new presenting not the current state of science, but that existing at least two years before, and when 10 years old, being available only for the few seeking the history of science. But lest he should be understood as advocating the complete neglect of science, Mr. Hodges referred to the present interest in birds and flowers, and expressed his belief that libraries could not have too many bird books and flower books. Mr. Hodges finally called attention to the books listed at 40 to 60 cents, which give reliable information in the departments of which they treat.

The club finding, as usual, the time at its disposal more easily exhausted than its program, resolved to defer the discussion of the

remaining lists until the next meeting, which applied to the reports on Art by Mr. Fleischner, on Literature by Miss Mary Morison, on Fiction by Miss A. G. Chandler, on Juveniles by Mrs. G. P. Sheffield.

The thanks of the club were extended to the trustees of the Medford Public Library and the High School Committee, and also to Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Morss, Mr. Hodges, Mr. Fleischner, Mr. Brooks, and Mrs. Sheffield, for their kind services in preparing their parts of the day's program. At 4.40 the meeting adjourned.

For the material which enabled him to complete this report and fill out a term of service which has been to him a source of inspiration and pleasure, the writer is indebted to Mr. Wellman, and to those who kindly loaned him their manuscripts.

WILLIAM H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary.*

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. P. Hill, Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

AN all-day meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, on Monday, October 25.

Dr. Scott, president of Rutgers College, welcomed the association most cordially, and in his address dwelt upon the importance of library work as one of the five great forces of civilization and its greater power over the others, these being the church, college, public school, and the press. The influence of the last is ephemeral, with each of the others the idea of compulsion is present, while the public library's great power is its absolute freedom.

Dr. J. B. Thompson, president of the association, in his address advocated most strongly the formation of historical societies or museums for the preservation of books and pamphlets of historic interest, which in every place are constantly going to waste, and expressed his belief that the librarians were the ones best fitted to take such matters in charge.

E. C. Richardson, of Princeton, then read a valuable and practical paper on "The purchase of books," which was followed by an animated and interesting discussion.

The association then adjourned to partake of a charming luncheon provided by the faculty of the college, and time was also given to inspect the various libraries and museums of the college and town.

After luncheon F. P. Hill, of the Newark Public Library, gave an interesting account of the libraries visited on the A. L. A. European trip.

Mr. Bostwick then followed with a valuable paper upon "The management of branches." Ways and means to increase membership in the association were then discussed and more frequent meetings were advocated. Prof. Richardson then offered a resolution to the effect "That the executive committee consider every possible means for increasing interest in the establishment of new libraries in the state, whether by holding more meetings or in any other way."

A new legislative committee, consisting of Mr. Kimball, Mr. Neilson, and Prof. Richardson, was appointed by the chair to take such action as they see fit to bring about proper legislation.

After a vote of thanks to President Scott, the faculty of Rutgers College, and Miss See, of the Free Public Library, for a most delightful meeting, the association adjourned.

EMMA L. ADAMS, *Sec'y pro tem.*

THE annual meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held at Newark, Wednesday, October 27, to elect officers for the ensuing year, with the following result: President, Frank P. Hill; Vice-president, W. C. Kimball; Secretary, Beatrice Winser; Treasurer, Cecelia C. Lambert.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. W. Whelpley, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss E. C. Doren, Public Library, Dayton.

*Treasurer:* C. B. Galbreath, State Library, Columbus.

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.

*Secretary:*—Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

THE first meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club for the season was held on Oct. 11 in West Chester, with the purpose of aiding in the development of the local public library. About 50 members of the club were present, nearly all being from Philadelphia. They reached West Chester before four o'clock in the afternoon, and were taken for a trip about the town in special trolley cars, under the courteous charge of members of the West Chester Library board. Among the points of interest visited were the Chester County Hospital and the Normal School, and the visitors were welcomed to a pleasant tea at the public library, which was their headquarters for the evening.

An executive session of the club preceded the public meeting, which opened at eight o'clock. Vice-president John Thomson presided, and in a short address set forth the purposes of the club and explained that for the present meeting it had been deemed expedient to do away with formal papers and to invite a general discussion upon the topic "How to establish and support a free library." He then introduced the subject, pointing out the necessity of a free library in the community, and urging its support by taxation.

T. L. Montgomery, of Wagner Institute, followed with a short address on means of popularizing a library, and especially of travelling libraries as an adjunct. This branch of the subject was also described by Mr. Thomson.

John J. Pinkerton, the first president, and one of the founders of the West Chester Library, gave an historical sketch of that library, and spoke of the insufficient support given it by the city. A discussion followed, in which questions were asked and answered as to the best methods of increasing the interest in the library and of making it free to the public.

The meeting adjourned with a hearty invitation to the West Chester hosts to attend the next session of the club in Philadelphia, when musical libraries will be discussed.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison, Wis.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Margaret Mann, Armour Institute, Chicago, Ill.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

THE Chicago Library Club held its first meeting of the year at the Newberry Library, Oct. 7, 1897, with a good attendance. Pres. A. H. Hopkins presided. The secretary having resigned, Miss M. E. Ahern was appointed secretary *pro tem.*

C. W. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, chairman of the committee on the union list of periodicals, gave a report of the progress of the work. Owing to the delay of some of those engaged in the work, the complete report could not be made for another month. Seventeen libraries had been asked to prepare lists; one had refused, and one gave no answer; 13 had sent in complete lists; one had sent a list of half its periodicals, with a promise of the rest to follow, and one of the large libraries had not yet sent in a report.

The address of the evening was made by Hervey White, reference librarian of John Crerar Library, on "A day with a reference librarian." He began by questioning the good of having a library club unless it acted as a lever for raising the educational force of the different libraries represented in its membership. A public library ought to have the best reference-books, and all of them — these to include current periodicals, cyclopedias, text-books, and popular treatises. Added to these there should be a courteous, well-informed attendant, who is not entirely dependent upon library helps to find what is wanted, and who, above all, should not turn the uninitiated over to the catalog. Assistants should keep up with the reviews in the critical periodicals, and in large libraries might have the reviews of their special departments assigned to them. There is a possibility of list-making being overdone. Don't make a bibliography unless there is a reason for it.

In the discussion, Mr. Bishop advocated the idea of making bibliography a part of every college course at least, and if possible of the high school course.

Mr. Andrews said that he had heard learned scholars at the Brussels convention of bibliographers say that they did not know how to use bibliographies, and so thought that it might not be so discouraging to have common people say they didn't know. He told of a free scientific reference library established in the artisan quarters of Paris, which had 15,000 books and as many photographs illustrating national, political, and social science.

A proposition was then presented that the club make arrangements to secure a permanent place for headquarters. After considerable discussion it was decided to appoint a committee to consider the matter and report at the next meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

*MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

*NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* T: W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

THE first regular meeting of the season, 1897–98, was held at the Teachers College, Riverview Terrace, New York City, on Thursday, Oct. 14. There was a large attendance when the meeting was called to order by President Bostwick at 3:10.

C. A. Nelson, of Columbia University Library, in presenting a brief account of the Second Philadelphia Conference of the A. L. A., about which so much had been printed, and of which the official report of the proceedings in full would shortly appear, sheltered himself behind the executive committee, which was responsible for his appearance. In his opening remarks Mr. Nelson said: "Perhaps the most notable feature of the conference was the amount of actual work accomplished in the four full days, Tuesday to Friday inclusive, but the boundless hospitality of our Philadelphia hosts was so lavishly interspersed that the bread of toil was not only buttered on both sides, but literally spread with preserves."

Miss Mary W. Plummer, librarian of the Pratt Institute, followed with a paper on "Children's libraries," given elsewhere in this number (*see* p. 679). President Bostwick then called upon Mr. R. R. Bowker for an account of the Second International Conference of Librarians at London. Mr. Bowker preferred to make his response an informal talk, which he did in a felicitous and able manner, entertaining his audience with personal reminiscences, which, he said, from their nature could not very well find their way into print. He spoke almost enthusiastically of the thorough organization and kindly spirit which marked the conference and the post-conference trip. He called attention to the fact of the absence of English women, and to the presence of American women at the conference, which seemed to be of no little significance; also to the fact that two-thirds of the sentiment among English librarians is against free access to the shelves in public libraries.

Dr. Billings had kindly consented to exhibit and explain his sketch-plans of the contemplated home of the treasures belonging to the consolidated libraries forming the New York Public Library, but owing to the advanced hour, he proposed to bring the matter before the club at a subsequent date.

The meeting was declared adjourned at five o'clock, but at the invitation of Miss Elizabeth G. Baldwin, librarian of the Teachers College, through whose courtesy the use of the meeting-place was secured, the members took tea before leaving the building.

THOMAS W. IDLE, *Secretary.*

THE New York Library Club "Manual" for 1897 (32 p. D.) has just been issued in neat cloth-bound form, revised and brought fully up-to-date by the secretary of the club, T: W: Idle. References to the proceedings of the club from the beginning, as reported in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, are given, and there is an index to the L. J. accounts of papers and topics presented. There are represented in the club membership 21 New York City libraries, eight Brooklyn libraries, and 29 other libraries; the membership list includes 153 persons. A useful feature of the manual is an alphabetical list of the "Libraries of New York City," 57 institutions being named. The artistic title-page and monogram were designed by Mr. Idle.

*TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB (MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL).*

*President:* Mrs. L. B. Reed, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Lettie M. Crafts, University of Minnesota Library, Minneapolis.

The Twin City Library Club was organized in the spring of 1897 as an association of library workers in the two cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Its objects are: "To make the library spirit felt in the community, to ally itself with the best educational and literary interests, to develop a sense of co-operation among librarians and library assistants in the neighborhood of the two cities, and finally, taking character, culture, and *esprit de corps* for granted, to discuss thoroughly, as an indispensable means toward the achievement of the highest purposes, questions of detail in library administration." The constitution provides that any one engaged in library work in Minneapolis or St. Paul is eligible to membership upon the approval of the executive committee, and at present the public, university, and law libraries are represented on the rolls. Four meetings a year are held, on the second Thursdays of October, December, February, and April. The first meeting was held in March, 1897, in the directors' room of the Minneapolis Public Library, when organization was effected and the following officers elected: President, Mrs. Lina B. Reed, Minneapolis Public Library; Vice-president, Miss Jennie S. Bronson, St. Paul Public Library; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Lettie M. Crafts, Library of the University of Minnesota.

The second meeting was held Oct. 14. After inspecting a bookbindery the club met at a neighboring café, dined together, discussed technicalities of library work, and enjoyed a report of the Philadelphia conference from Dr. Hosmer, and an account by Dr. Victor Nilsson of a recent visit to some foreign libraries. The meetings are wholly informal, but none the less pleasant and profitable.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 25th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City, being the first meeting of the present season, was held at the

Columbian University, on the evening of Oct. 27. About 60 persons were present, and President W. P. Cutter presided. The following new members were added to the roll: Miss Eva H. Quinn, Miss Anne S. Ames, Miss Blanche Brown, Thorvald Solberg, W. T. Swingle, D. G. Fairchild, J. M. C. Hansen, Allen D. Slauson, Dr. Herbert Friedenwald, A. P. C. Griffin, A. R. Kimball, Thomas H. Clark, Hugh A. Morrison, Jr., and George Kearney.

Dr. Cyrus Adler announced the death of Dr. Justin Winsor, president of the A. L. A., and a committee of three was appointed to prepare resolutions expressing the regret of the association at this loss to the library world. The following were adopted:

"The Library Association of Washington City has heard with profound regret of the death of Justin Winsor, librarian of Harvard University, president of the American Library Association, and sometime librarian of the Boston Public Library, and president of the American Historical Association.

"This society recognizes the great services of Mr. Winsor for a period of thirty years as librarian, historian, and bibliographer, and records its deep sense of the loss which American scholarship sustains in his death.

CYRUS ADLER,
H. CARRINGTON BOLTON, } *Committee.*
WM. L. BOYDEN."

No program had been prepared for the meeting, but the evening was mainly devoted to story-telling, or, in other words, the roll was called and each member was given an opportunity of relating some of their bibliographical experiences during the summer. The Philadelphia conference was recalled from many points of view, and a number of interesting matters were presented. Dr. H. C. Bolton told of the remissness of many librarians in failing to return the check lists for his catalog of periodicals — 25 per cent. of those to whom it had been sent having failed even to acknowledge its receipt. Miss Edith E. Clarke described the special library of the Society for the Home Study of Holy Scripture, which has recently been moved to Washington. Mr. Cole spoke of visits to libraries in Toronto, Ottawa, and Quebec; Mr. Cheney related experiences in the libraries of Baltimore; and Mr. Cutter, for Miss Hawks and Miss Barnett, told of two valuable bibliographies that had been prepared by these ladies this summer, on sugar beets by the former and on poultry by the latter, which have been published by the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Cutter, after speaking of his own bibliographical experiences in a Canadian club, whose members "do nothing but fish," gave an interesting account of a visit to the Philadelphia Commercial Museum and its library, where 75 catalogers are employed. Mr. Bernard R. Green described the moving of the books from the old quarters of the new Library of Congress building, and finally related seeing what no one in this generation had before witnessed, viz., the old library room in the Capitol with empty shelves, the room *swept and dusted and Mr. Spofford seated with his hat on, resting.*

Although the roll was then but half called the meeting adjourned at 9.45 p.m.

F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary.*

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### *COLUMBIAN UNIVERSITY.*

THE Columbian University, at Washington, has initiated a course in library science, to meet the demand for training in library work in that city. The course is one of the regular four-year courses of the Corcoran Scientific School of the University, and will lead to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Library Science. Provision is also made for students to complete the purely technical part of the course in two years, and to receive a certificate of proficiency.

The first class was organized on Wednesday, October 13, and short addresses were delivered by Dr. C. E. Munroe, dean of the Scientific School, and A. R. Spofford, director of the School of Library Science. Sixteen students have registered.

This course is unique in that all the special instruction is given in the evening. Several students are in the service of the government, and take this method of paying their expenses while pursuing this course. The Columbian University Library, of about 15,000 volumes, will be used for practice by the class.

The faculty thus far selected are: A. R. Spofford, director, and Professors H. Carrington Bolton, W. P. Cutter, and Henderson Presnell. Mr. Spofford is the well-known assistant librarian of the Library of Congress; Mr. Bolton has published a number of valuable works on bibliography, some of which are familiar to all librarians; Messrs. Cutter and Presnell are librarians of the United States Department of Agriculture and of the United States Bureau of Education respectively. Other members of the faculty will be named at an early date.

Library matters in Washington are becoming more and more prominent, and it is hoped that this school will be of great assistance to the local library association in advancing library work in the city. W. P. CUTTER.

### *NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

LIST OF STUDENTS, 1897–98.

THE fall term opened Wednesday, October 6, with the following students:

*Senior class.*

Bailey, Arthur Low, Tufts College, 1894–96.
Brown, Edna Adelaide, Brown University, 1894–96.
Cook, William Burt, Jr., B.A. Cornell University, 1896.
Flagg, Charles Alcott, B.A. Bowdoin College, 1894.
Garvin, Ethel, Brown University, 1893–96.
Hunt, Clara Whitehill.
Imhoff, Ono Mary, A.B. Woman's College of Baltimore, 1896.
Morse, Anna Louise, B.A. Smith College, 1892.
Sherrill, Cecelia Adelaide, B.A. Smith College, 1895.
Wilson, Ellen Summers.
Wyer, James Ingersoll, Jr., University of Minnesota, 1895–96.

*Junior class.*

Baker, Ethel, Ph.B. Northern University, 1892; Chicago University, 1892–94.
Creighton, John Barber, Ph.B. Colgate University, 1897.
Daggett, Caroline Mayhew.
Gracie, Helen Blackie.
Guggenheimer, Aimée, B.A. Woman's College of Baltimore, 1896.
Hyatt, Bertha Evelyn, B.A. Wellesley College, 1896.
Laer, Arnold Johan Ferdinand van.
Lane, Lucius Page, B.S. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1894; B.A. Harvard University, 1895; M.A., 1896.
Mathews, Mrs. Jessie Frances Holmes, Ph.B. Drury College, 1883; Wellesley College, 1888–89.
McCall, Catharine.
Miersch, Ella Emilie, B.A. Vassar College, 1897.
Rombauer, Bertha Emilie.
Shaw, Robert Kendall, B.A. Harvard University, 1894.
Smith, Laura.
Windeyer, Margaret.
Windsor, Phineas Lawrence, Ph.B. Northwestern University, 1895.
Wood, Harriet Ann, B.A. Vassar College, 1893; University of Chicago, 1894–95.

The Thanksgiving recess will extend from Wednesday noon, November 24, to Monday noon, November 29.

The Christmas recess will begin Friday, December 24, and close Monday, January 3, 1898.

The visit of the school to Boston libraries will take place April 6 to April 15.

The school year will close Tuesday, June 24.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

## Reviews.

AFLALO, F. G. The literary year-book, 1897. London, George Allen, 1897. 12+300 p. 16°.

This volume is a first attempt at a year-book of literature; and, as originally planned, it was to have been "purely a work of references for all connected with the making of books." A number of features of more general interest, however, have been added, among them portraits and biographical sketches of some of the British writers of the day. The volume contains considerable matter of interest to librarians, and to these features these remarks are confined.

There is a chapter on the British Museum in which are described the rules governing the use of its treasures and the methods of obtaining books, etc., in the reading-rooms. A number of the leading libraries of England, Scotland, and Ireland are briefly described, though one is rather astonished that no mention is made of any of the great libraries of Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham. Similar descriptions of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, and of the Königlische Bibliothek, Berlin, are given. It may not be generally known that these two libraries, unlike the British Museum, conduct lending departments, which, however, are confined to duplicate volumes. Imagine a wait of two hours for a book in a reading-room in an American library, and note the following of Berlin: "Books ordered before 9 a.m. are available at 11 a.m.; and similarly those ordered by 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. are respectively available by 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Books ordered between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. are brought with all possible despatch. No applications are received after 3 p.m., nor are there any intermediate deliveries of books."

James D. Brown contributes a list of the principal libraries, public (rate-supported), state, collegiate, endowed and proprietary, of the United Kingdom. With the name of each library there is usually given the year of foundation and the number of volumes. The libraries which are represented in the Library Association are starred, and it is surprising how small a number are thus represented. Nearly 200 of the libraries belong to London alone.

An alphabetical list of the chief literary clubs, learned societies and institutions in Great Britain and Ireland is also given. The date of foundation, object, publications, as well as the address of the club, and name of the secretary, are among some of the interesting items given in connection with each club on the list.

A four-page list of a few bibliographical and typographical terms in more general use and a three-page list of technical terms in the various processes of reproduction, are given; and there is a directory of British authors, one of publishers, and a third of booksellers. Not the least interesting and useful to librarians is the five-page list of recipes for bookmen, including recipes for restoring the writing on old deeds, removing grease spots on paper, restoring the gloss of fine bindings, preserving bindings from mildew, the preservation of bindings generally, etc. S: H. R.

DIXSON, *Mrs.* Zella Allen. The comprehensive subject index to universal prose fiction. New York, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1897. 10+422 p. O. subs.

A year or so ago Mr. James Brown, in an article in *The Library*, suggested a subject classification of fiction, and appended some delightfully amusing illustrations of his proposition. The plan thus humorously outlined had, nevertheless, its serious side, and it is probable that most of those entertained by the *jeu d'esprit* breathed a hope that the plan suggested in jest might some day be carried out in earnest. An adequate and carefully analyzed list of representative fiction, classified under subjects, would be a boon to librarians and to a multitude of readers, but it is hard to conceive of a bibliographical task more difficult or requiring more fitness and painstaking labor on the part of its compiler. For it would be necessary to draw the line between novels good and novels indifferent; to realize that emotions are not facts nor love-stories sociological documents; to be constantly wary of the pitfall of the ridicu-

lous; and above all to beware of the danger of breaking a butterfly on a wheel, and reading a "purpose" into books that are not pedagogues but companions.

Such a work as the title and announcements of the present volume would indicate it to be, should have met these demands, and that it would do so was the hope of many who have waited with interest for its appearance. The book proves to be a title list of novels and juvenile tales — chiefly American and English, with a sprinkling of foreign books — arranged alphabetically under a variety of subjects. The number of books included is not stated, but it must reach several thousand, and for the accumulation and assortment of this mass of material the compiler merits the praise that industry must always command. Here commendation of the book must end, and it must be said that the work as a whole reflects discredit not only on the author, who is proved incompetent for her task, but on the publishers, whose long association with scholarly bibliography makes their imprint on this volume a matter of surprise. The aim seems to have been to include as many novels as could be dragged together, under as many headings as a fertile imagination could supply, and this has been achieved at the sacrifice of cohesion, accuracy, and common sense, while the mechanical details of bibliographical and typographical correctness show a carelessness that even a good proofreader might ordinarily be expected to prevent.

Glancing first at the classification, it is apparent that the majority of the books listed are personally unknown to the compiler, and that the title has furnished the main clue to their contents. On page 1 we find the subject *Abbeys*, with subdivisions under the names of individual establishments. Here, apparently, abbeys created by the novelist are accepted as, and listed indistinguishably with, *bona fide* institutions, for "Nightmare Abbey" follows Innisfoyle and Melrose, while "Seamew Abbey," the home of mysteries and crime conceived by the lively brain of Florence Warden, precedes Tavistock. On the next page, under *Adventures*, it is also evident that anything with "adventures" in its title is entitled to entrance, for here are the "Adventures of Ann," Miss Wilkins' simple stories of colonial New England, "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," "Simple adventures of a memsahib," and the "Adventures" of the "Houseboat" and the "Phaeton" rubbing shoulders with one another and with an equally motley company.

A few other examples will suffice to illustrate this method of "classification at sight": under *Allegories*, Haggard's "She" is the amazed companion of "Pilgrim's progress." Kenneth Grahame's charming stories of English child-life, "The golden age," have been enjoyed by many grown-up children, who will now learn for the first time that they cover the "subjects" of *Ancient History: First Century A.D.*, and *Life of Christ*, under which latter division also we find "Trooper Peter Halkett of Mashonaland"! Under *Cavaliers*, mixed in with tales of Roundheads and Loyalists, is Miss Seawell's children's life of George Washington, "A Virginia cavalier," which, however, is not found under the name of Washington. From the division *Homiletics* "The little minister" looks out with surprised questioning. Under *India*, Howells' "Indian summer" and Kipling's "Light that failed" find refuge, the former being evidently ticketed by its title, while as for the latter the theory seems to be that as it is by Kipling it ought to be about India, even if it isn't. *New York City* has nearly a score of titles, but they do not include Ford's "Honorable Peter Sterling," although room has been found for Frederic's "Seth's brother's wife: a story of greater New York," the sub-title — which refers to the state, not the city — being given a thoroughly up-to-date interpretation. The inclusion under *Slavery* of Mrs. Alexander's "Forging the fetters" is in keeping with the general scheme of this "classification." In *Pedagogy* "Little Schoolmaster Mark" nearly equals the placing of Marie Corelli's "Mighty atom" under *Relation of the sexes;* while in *Slum stories* Fielding's "Tom Jones" and Merriman's "Flotsam," a story of the Indian Mutiny, which is not entered under India or the mutiny, make confusion worse confounded. Indeed, one emotion that comes uppermost as one glances over this astonishing hodge-podge is a longing that the authors here classified might see themselves in this list and know at last on what subjects they really wrote. Surely H. G. Wells would learn with amused amazement that his phantasmagoria of vivisection horrors, "The island of Dr. Moreau," dealt with *Spiritualism;* Howells, we think, would wonder when he had become responsible for the volume "The quality of crime," mysteriously fathered upon him; Irving might protest that the "Conquest of Granada" was not altogether a novel, and surely if De Quincey's "Murder considered as a fine art" is to be listed as a contribution to "purpose" fiction, Elia's essay on roast pig ought to have due entry under *Domestic economy.* After these examples it is with more pity than mirth that we contemplate Prof. Le Plongeon's learned archæological treatise on Mayan antiquities, "Queen Moó and the Egyptian sphinx," figuring on page 86 as a novel relating to *Egypt.*

In history the classification is even more awry than in other divisions. Such entries as Bulwer's "Last of the barons" under *Barons' war;* the confusion of James I. of Scotland with James I. of England; the placing of books on the Commune under history of France in the 18th century; the inclusion of Thackeray's "Four Georges" as historical fiction; the classification of Robin Hood under history of England in both the 12th and 14th centuries, cannot be explained as the result of carelessness alone, while the final touch is given in the fact that Jacobites, Jacobins, and Jacquerie are evidently synonymous terms in the mind of the compiler, books on all three subjects being entered under *Jacobites.*

Bibliographically and typographically, the book is no more creditable. To cite but a few of

the more glaring errors, it may be noted that Du Maurier's "Trilby" is evidently believed to be a translation from the French, as both the original and the "English translation" are listed; "John Inglesant" is attributed on page 48 to Joseph Holt Ingraham; Stephen Crane, on page 341, figures as the author of "The cat and the cherub"; Howard Pyle, we are told, is the creator of "Beautiful Joe"; Beckford is evidently believed to have produced two masterpieces — there is no other explanation of the two entries "History of the Caliph Vathek" and "Vathek, an Arabian tale," under *Arabia;* German titles are almost invariably misspelled, and minor inaccuracies in titles and authors' names are legion — such entries as Meredith's "Shaving a(!) Shagpat" — under *Arabia* — and McLeod's "Startling" may be taken as examples of many. Indeed, a further consideration of the work would be more fittingly pursued in the LIBRARY JOURNAL column of "Humors and Blunders" than in the serious department of "Reviews."

Of the selection itself, it can only be said that it is in keeping with the general execution of the book. Evidently the chief object in view has been to accumulate, not to select. Novels are included that do not deserve consideration on any grounds; out of date and out of print books are indiscriminately entered; and a list that includes books by A. C. Gunter, Florence Warden, Mrs. H. C. Lewis, of *Fireside Companion* fame, Mrs. Georgie Sheldon, G. W. M. Reynolds, and their ilk, should hardly pretend to give, as the author claims, a "wise and satisfactory answer to the much repeated question 'What can I read?'"

It is difficult to determine what measure of usefulness such a work possesses. It is probable that it will serve as a guide in some degree to many — though it is unlikely that the reader who draws Howells' "Indian summer" as a novel of India will again trust implicitly to its direction. That it falls so far short of what it might have been and should have been is a matter of much regret. Dispraise is an unpleasing and an unprofitable exercise, but there is another side to the matter; it is not fair to readers or librarians that a tool for which they have paid and from which they have expected good service should be marred in the making and accepted by them unwittingly as something that it is not and cannot be.

H. E. H.

FOOTE, Elizabeth Louisa. The librarian of the Sunday-school: a manual; with a chapter on the Sunday-school library, by Martha Thorne Wheeler. N. Y., Eaton & Mains, 1897. 86 p. S.

Miss Foote, who is a B.L.S. of the New York Library School, has in this little manual given an excellent and practical guide for the administration of a Sunday-school library, which it is to be hoped may be appreciated by those for whom it is intended. Some doubt, perhaps, mingles with this aspiration, for as a rule the Sunday-school library is rather a discouraging subject for library reform, and in its administration hit-or-miss methods evolved from the inner consciousness of its custodians are likely to prevail over the stricter rules of the trained librarian. Strict, however, the lines laid down in this little volume are not. Indeed, they are excellently adapted for varying needs and practices, and will give helpful suggestions for the conduct of small secular libraries. Miss Foote writes clearly and simply of the preliminaries of shelving, classification, and cataloging, of the preparation of the simplest form of a printed catalog; of the details of issuing books; and of the proper methods for selection of new books, repairs of old ones, and the preparation of an annual report. Explanatory diagrams and specimen entries are also given. These practical details are supplemented by Miss Wheeler's excellent short essay on "The Sunday-school library," reprinted from *Library Notes*, in which the ethical and literary standards that should govern the choice of books are discussed with sense and thoroughness; methods of awakening an intelligent interest in the books are also touched upon, and there is a short reference list of catalogs and other works useful in the selection of books for the Sunday-school library.

GREENWOOD, Thomas, *ed.* Greenwood's library year-book, 1897: a record of general library progress and work. London, Cassell, 1897. 10+323 p. 12°.

Mr. Greenwood, it is evident, understands "the gentle art of making enemies"; for in this, the first library year-book, he uses vigorous language in denouncing individuals, some of whom have already been moved to reply in terms equally vigorous. In the introduction the editor discusses what has been done, is being done, and remains to be done in the library field. 330 public libraries have been established in Great Britain under the various acts since 1850; 265 being in England, 32 in Scotland, 17 in Ireland, and 16 in Wales. Mr. Greenwood claims that the libraries of the United Kingdom excel those of the United States, except in the schemes of classification, apparatus, and the "administration of the details of management." "There is positively no comparison between the amount and variety of work accomplished in the libraries of the two countries."

A year-book should above all things be accurate and up to date, yet it may be said that this year-book often errs in both these details. On page 5 we read, "Librarians, both in England and America, have for years been flirting with what is variously called 'free access' or 'open access,' but none of them ever dreamed of organizing it as a system of lending for public libraries till in 1894 the library authorities of Clerkenwell . . . established it without flourish or ceremony. . . . Nothing of the sort had ever been tried before, and naturally it cost the older librarians a severe effort to swallow their traditional and *ex-officio* distrust of the public." This is certainly a surprising statement to appear in a *library* year-

book, and it is only necessary to refer to the LIBRARY JOURNAL of May, 1890 (15 : 136), where Mr. Brett describes the rearrangement of the Cleveland Public Library for the purposes of public access. In the same volume, p. 296, further reference is made to the experience of Cleveland. In discussing the English opposition to public access the denunciation of "an individual who had pecuniary interests in a library indicator" seems, at a distance of 3000 miles, rather uncalled for.

The following are some of the chapters of the volume, all confined to the United Kingdom: The early history of the public library movement, by W. E. A. Axon; Public library legislation, by H. W. Fovargue; How to adopt the acts; Heating, lighting, and ventilating public libraries, by J. W. Hart; The rating and taxation of public libraries, by W. R. Credland; The training of public library assistants, by J. J. Ogle; Procedure in the formation of public libraries, by J. D. Brown; Recent developments of library practice; Administrative work, by J. D. Brown; On Sunday labour in national public libraries, museums, and art gallaries, by the Rev. Canon Barnett; The great fiction question.

Of chief interest to Americans is the alphabetical list of British rate-supported libraries established under the various public libraries or other acts, giving particulars of establishment, organization, staff, methods, and librarians. There are also lists of endowed, collegiate, proprietary, and other British libraries, the principal libraries of the British colonies and of the United States. In these lists the information given is meagre, the list for the United States being taken from the Bureau of Education statistics of 1893. A chapter is devoted to "Library associations and kindred societies," and to obituary notices of seven English librarians. An appendix contains Mr. Gladstone's speech at the opening of the St. Martin-in-the-Fields Public Library, in February, 1891.

The brief outline of the contents of the volume indicates that this year-book hardly fulfils its purpose, which as stated in the preface is to give "a survey of the whole question, as it presents itself in the various countries."

S: H. R.

HAYES, R. P., *comp.* Publications of the state of Ohio, 1803–1896; together with an index to the executive documents. Norwalk, O., Laning Printing Co., 1897. 4 + 72 p. O.

The list of adequate bibliographies of state publications is so small a one that every addition to the record is matter for special gratification. The present pamphlet carries Ohio into a foremost place among the few states in which bibliographical record is recognized as a chief function of the state library, and its publication is a matter of congratulation to the Ohio State Library and of satisfaction to all who have lost themselves in the mazes of state documents. As library commissioner of the state, Mr. Hayes could have performed no more useful task than the compilation of the present list, and it is to be hoped that his work may furnish an example, as it supplies a model for similar undertakings, in other state libraries.

In the preparation of the list the form adopted is rather unusual, but possesses decided merits. Publications are listed under the names of officers or departments issuing them, which are arranged in alphabetical order, as Adjutant-general, Agriculture, Archæological and Historical society, etc. The actual record is given in tabular form, listing in one column the successive dates of the several reports or other publications, and in a second the volumes of the executive documents in which they may also be found. This, though in some cases wasteful of space, gives, nevertheless, an immediate index clue to any report for any year or years, and makes the consultation of the list extremely simple. Preceding each tabular record is a brief statement of the office or institution following, with date of establishment, note of successive changes in name, if any, and any other essential facts regarding it. Since 1836 the executive documents of the state have contained nearly all reports or publications also issued separately; these, as stated, are virtually indexed in the record of each department, but in addition there is a separate "index to the executive documents," in which all reports bound up in the document volumes find systematic record. In view of the chronological confusions, changes of form, and perplexing "misfits" always found in any large collection of connected pamphlets or official documents, it is interesting to see how excellently Mr. Hayes' tabulated plan has worked and how well the extensive material with which he deals has been "boiled down" to a clear and simple record. In some cases it must be said that intelligibility has been sacrificed to brevity, at least as regards the majority of the entries under "Miscllaneous reports and publications," where such entries as "Ashtabula bridge disaster, 1877," give no clue to the actual nature of the publication or its method of issue. The list as a whole is essentially practical; it gives little bibliographical data, but as a simple and sufficient guide to the publications of the state it is of direct usefulness and importance. Perhaps the best proof of its success lies in the fact that the time, thought, and detailed work that have been given to it are so little apparent in the simplicity of the result achieved. A subject index adds much to its ready use.

OGLE, John J. The free library: its history and present condition. Lond., George Allen, 1897. 20 + 344 p. D.

This is the initial volume in *The Library Series*, undertaken under the editorship of Dr. Richard Garnett, who in a few pleasant words of "general introduction" describes the field which it is planned to cover. The present age, he tells us, has had varied designations; it has been styled the Age of Steam, the Age of Veneer, and the Age of Talk; but more than these, perhaps, it is entitled to be styled the Age of Books. In no respect is the predominance of

the Book so strongly shown as in the ever-growing curiosity for information and gossip on all that pertains to it — its makers, its contents, its publishers, its custodians, its depositories. The literature of the book, as a book, is full to overflowing, but the literature of libraries and librarians, the homes and custodians of the book, has hardly attained sufficient proportions to satisfy this public interest. In the present series it is hoped to give practical and readable information on the free libraries of Great Britain, on library architecture and fittings, on library administration, on the prices of books, and similar subjects. This first volume is fittingly devoted to "The free library," and is an interesting and comprehensive *résumé* of the development of free public libraries, with statistical and descriptive accounts of the most notable of the free libraries in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Ogle, who is librarian of the Bootle Free Library, begins with a chapter on library development up to 1855, when the Ewart act laid the foundation for the progress of future years. He tells us that the earliest free town libraries in Great Britain date from the beginning of the 17th century, when collections of books were bequeathed to city corporations. "One such was founded at Norwich in the year 1608. The greater part of the original books of this, the oldest city free library with a continuous history to the present day, are now housed in the Norwich Free Public Library." The city library formed in Bristol in 1615 is still accessible to the public in the Bristol Central Free Library of to-day. These libraries and others of later date, though at times conducted by private societies, were never it is thought restricted from the use of seekers after knowledge. The growth of the movement is briefly traced from these early days to the present time, when Mr. Ogle estimates that "there cannot be fewer than six or seven hundred free libraries established in 300 towns, parishes, or districts under the Public Libraries act of the United Kingdom. These libraries contain 5,000,000 volumes, and have an annual issue of from 25,000,000 to 30,000,000." The chapter on "The development of the free library" is an interesting summary of the most potent influences in library progress; among them the A. L. A. and L. A. U. K. and their organs, and the recent English experiments toward training of assistants and free access. Brief biographical sketches of "Some past workers and present benefactors," including Edward Edwards, Andrew Carnegie, Passmore Edwards, Sir John Lubbock, and others, conclude Book I., and Book II. is devoted to "Brief histories of typical libraries," chapters being given to the British Museum and Guildhall libraries, London libraries under the acts, representative free libraries in the first, second, and third class towns, free libraries in small towns and villages, and endowed and voluntary free libraries. An appendix gives detailed statistical tables, and there is a good index. Naturally, the book is intended for an English public, but it is, nevertheless, of interest and usefulness to American libraries as a record of library progress.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

FLETCHER, W: I: The public library movement in organized form. (In *The Citizen*, September, 1897. 3:157.)

A review of the history and work of the American Library Association.

FOOTE, Elizabeth L. The children's home library movement. (In *The Outlook*, September 18, 1897. 57:172.)

There are 64 libraries of this sort now in use by as many groups of children in Boston, where the work began in January, 1887.

HUMPHREYS, Arthur L. The private library: what we do know, what we don't know, what we ought to know about our books. 2d ed. London, Strangeways, 1897. 8+162 p. 12°.

Despite the author's prejudice against free libraries, which he thinks of "doubtful good," his little book is one of interest and value to those engaged in the work of such libraries, for it contains many practical hints on the collection and care of books, pleasantly presented.

### LOCAL.

*Adams, Mass.* The corner-stone of the new G. A. R. Memorial Building and Public Library was laid on Sept. 25, by President McKinley. The exercises were conducted under the auspices of the local G. A. R., and a short address was made by the President.

*Allegheny, Pa. Carnegie F. L.* (7th rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, '97.) Added 4041; total 32,273; lost 16. Issued, home use 117,101 (fict. 84 %); ref. use 63,035; Sunday use 6185. New cards issued 1735; total cards in force 15,017. Receipts $15,000; expenses $14,969.11.

There was a decrease of 5783 v. in the circulation, attributed to the closing of the library for repairs during August. The circulation of fiction has fallen 2% from the previous year; this, however, is notable chiefly in the department of juvenile fiction, which has shown a gradual improvement ever since the library was opened; "on the other hand, the percentage of adult fiction read has been gradually rising, although not so rapidly as the percentage of juvenile fiction has fallen. There are two theories to explain this fact. One is that the young are more susceptible to improvement than adults. The other is that as the supply of juvenile fiction has been cut down more rapidly than that of adult fiction the young have taken to reading the fiction intended for older readers. No statistics are kept of the reading of juvenile books other than fiction, but the wearing out of many books of this class, notably in history, indicates an increased use in that direction." The reference use of the library is steadily increasing; "the Sunday attendance has been especially large, and the question of an age limit for Sunday readers may be necessary before long." More room is also becoming a necessity.

*Atlanta, Ga. Y. M. L.* The new book-room was opened on the evening of Sept. 11, when an informal reception was held to celebrate the completion of alterations and improvements in the library. The new room occupies the space formerly given to the hall, the book-room and a rear veranda, and is as attractive as it is spacious; it is lighted by a skylight and by numerous windows, and is harmoniously decorated, with woodwork of Georgia pine and walls that, according to Miss Wallace, are "as blue as Georgia skies." The main hall of the library, containing the librarian's desk, has been left practically unaltered, but a boys' room has been established, in which the high-school students and others may study, read, or write.

*Bridgeport (Ct.) P. L.* The first art exhibition of the season was opened on Oct. 16, to continue to Nov. 27. It is devoted to black and white original drawings from the foremost illustrators of the country, and to examples of amateur photography from wheelmen. The second exhibition will represent artistic lithography.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* The association held its first meeting of the autumn on the evening of Oct. 21. It was reported that the proposed central library in the old public school building no. 3 was in process of organization, and it was decided to endeavor during the winter to establish reading-rooms in some of the small city parks.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* Since its opening as a free public library on Sept. 1 the use of all departments of the library has been phenomenal. During the week ending Oct. 2 the average circulation was 2000 v. daily, nearly 500 books a day being issued from the children's department alone. The open-shelf collection of 8000 v. has proved most popular, and the supply of books for this department cannot meet the demand, though large additions are being constantly made. At the end of September over 17,000 borrowers had been enrolled. The separate newpaper-room in the lower part of the city was opened Sept. 16, and has been largely used; four branch stations are also to be established in distant sections for the receipt and delivery of books. The importance of the library has also been brought to the attention of the schools in various ways, and a talk on how to make the best of the opportunities it offers was given by Superintendent Elmendorf to the pupils of the Central high school on Sept. 23.

*Butte (Mont.) F. P. L.* The library is kept constantly before the public, through the medium of the press of the state, with excellent results. No regular bulletin is issued, but special lists, record of additions, etc., are brought to general notice through newspaper articles and lists prepared by the librarian.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* The library has issued an interesting little "handbook," giving a brief history of its past and present organization, information for readers, and the rules and officers. It is illustrated by several views of the interior of the library and by portraits of the members of the Case family most closely connected with its growth.

The second exhibition illustrating amateur photography was held at the library from Nov. 1 – 6.

*Dayton (O.) P. L.* During the last year the library has been carrying on a regular training class for its library staff, which has also included the most promising of the applicants for positions in the library. Miss Doren writes: "It has proved a wholesome and effective means of reorganizing and improving our library staff, and is introducing civil service principles into the methods of appointment to service here. These are the incidental advantages: the main issue is better work, more alert and intelligent assistants, pride in the institution, and hope in working for it."

Within the past few months the library arrangement has been altered so as to permit public access to the shelves.

*Des Moines (Ia.) P. L.* The library lawsuit has been decided by the supreme court of the state, which holds that the city council was authorized in its refusal to levy a tax for the erection of a new library building. The case was summarized in the L. J. for April, 1897 (p. 213). It was practically a test of the validity of the library act passed by the 26th general assembly by which the authority to fix the amount of library taxation was delegated to library boards. The supreme court affirms that the legislature has no authority to transfer the taxing power in this way; it also holds that the people of Des Moines never in any manner assented to the power exercised by the library board, as the board was created and vested with power subsequent to the vote of the people which established the library. The opinion of the district court in refusing to grant a mandamus compelling the council to levy the tax is sustained.

*Durham (N. C.) P. L.* The corner-stone of the library building was laid on the afternoon of Sept. 4, with Masonic ceremonies and in the presence of about 2000 persons. Durham is said to be the first town in North Carolina to have a public library in a building of its own.

*East Bridgewater, Mass. Washburn L.* The dedication of the Washburn Library occurred on the morning of Sept. 22. The library, which has been in process of erection for several years, is the gift of Cyrus Washburn, of Wellesley Hills, a native of the town, and cost $10,000. It is of brick, with granite basement 35 x 65, in Queen Anne style, two-storied, with a tower 14 feet square.

*Evanston (Ill.) F. P. L.* (24th rpt. — year ending May 31, '97.) Added 3164; total 18,778. Issued, home use 71,120 (fict. 46¼%; juv. 22%); no statistics of ref. use are kept; new registration 1906; total cards in use 4193. Receipts $12,401,36; expenses $8966.15.

The directors say "the past year has been an eventful one. It has been a period of readjustment, readaptation, and extension. The intent has been to improve, practicalize, and make the work of the library more effective along established lines, taking up only such new work as our present organization and resources would enable us to properly handle, and which seemed to give promise of accomplishing the greatest amount of good."

How much has been accomplished in these directions the report itself will show. The library hours have been lengthened to almost twice their previous extent, active relations have been established with the schools — the lack of space for a children's department making this the only means of direct work with the children; printed bulletins of additions have been issued bi-monthly; the reclassification of the library by Dr. G. E. Wire, and the dictionary card catalog made by Miss M. E. Gale, were both completed; and an annotated finding list was prepared, which is noticed elsewhere (*see* p. 221). A special meeting for teachers, librarians, and others interested in educational progress was held on Dec. 4, which proved an influence for good in the development of the library. Miss Lindsay points out the need of increased facilities of space and attendance, and says "the field is developing faster than our ability to meet its growing requirements." A brief historical sketch of the library since its organization as the Evanston Library Association in 1870 is given.

*Gloucester, Mass.* A building for a free public library has been given to Gloucester by Rev. J. J. Healy. The purpose of the building, which has been in course of erection for some time past, was but recently announced; it will probably be completed by next spring. Father Healy intends to give his own private library of about 1000 v. as a nucleus for the stocking of the building, and plans that the library shall be wholly non-sectarian and as well equipped and comprehensive as possible. The building is to be two-storied, of brick. Over the entrance will be the name "Free City library" and the inscription "The gift of Rev. J. J. Healy, P.R."

*Hartford (Ct.) P. L.* (49th rpt. — year ending June 1, '97.) Added 5725; total "about 57,500." Issued, home use 201,532, of which 3065 was from branches. New registration 2049; total registration 17,970; "live" cards 11,609. Receipts $13,856.24; expenses $13,929.70, showing a net deficit of 73.46.

"There has been a notable increase in the number of non-fiction books drawn. The percentage of such books called for during the past year has been about 22%, as against 20% for the previous year, and 17% the year before that. The greatest gain is shown in the number of books of modern languages drawn. This is doubtless due in no small measure to the considerable additions within the past year or two of books in the German, Swedish, and Danish languages, which have been much used."

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* After having been closed for alterations for nearly three weeks, the library was reopened on Sept. 8. The changes made have not only rendered it much more attractive, but will add greatly to its efficiency. The most important is the rearrangement by which free access is given to all books except fiction.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* At the September meeting of the library board a petition was presented from 500 Bohemians, asking that an appropriation be made for the purchase of Bohemian books.

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* A flagrant case of book mutilation came to light on Sept. 18, when Robert C. Somers was indicted by the grand jury to stand trial for that offence. Somers, who was a student at the state university, and has been a tutor in Latin and Greek, is charged with mutilating a copy of Demosthenes, orations belonging to the library. It was stated that last June he obtained the book from the shelves and deliberately tore out some 70 pages, which he carried away after restoring the volume to its place. The difference in the text used by Somers and that of the other students later attracted the attention of one of the professors in the university, who reported his suspicion to Dr. Hosmer, the librarian. The matter was investigated and a complaint sworn out, and Somers was placed under arrest as soon as possible. The pages of text torn out had been bound in paper covers, but a comparison with the mutilated volume showed that the leaves exactly fitted.

*Naperville, Ill. Nichols Memorial L.* Work was begun early in October on the library building. It is to be a one-story structure, of brick and brown-stone, with stock capacity of 25,000 v., and will cost $10,000.

*Nashua, N. H.* The decision in the famous Hunt memorial library case was handed down on Sept. 20 by the county commissioners, the owners of the Greeley property being awarded the sum of $36,848.55, with legal interest from Jan. 14, 1896, the date of the meeting at which the city council voted to take the property by right of eminent domain. The commissioners also order the city to pay the costs of the hearing, $121.73.

The case has occupied the attention of citizens, lawyers, the supreme court and the city councils since the spring of 1892, when Mrs. Mary Hunt and her daughter, Mary, gave the city of Nashua $50,000 to erect a memorial library to the late John M. Hunt. By the terms of the gift the city was to select and purchase a lot for the library and the $50,000 was to be used to erect a building. The city councils formally accepted the gift, and for a few brief weeks there was peace and joy in Nashua. Then began a heated argument among townspeople and city authorities as to whether the site should be on the "north side" or the "south side" of the river, and memorials, resolutions, and ordinances were promulgated sufficient to fill a volume. In the meantime the

library trustees decided upon a lot known as the Greeley site, and began negotiations with the owner, Mrs. M. A. Greeley, for the purchase of the land and buildings. Later, however, the council decided to do nothing further about selecting a site, and Mrs. Greeley sold the property to a syndicate. No sooner was this done than the library trustees and city councils agreed that the property must be chosen, and forthwith they offered the new owners the sum of $35,000, to be paid from the city treasury, and $5000 to be raised by popular subscription. A deed of the property dated Oct. 14, 1892, was drawn up, and was signed by the owners when some further hitch occurred and the deed was not passed. Then came a series of petitions for and against the site; the attorney-general decided that the purchase must be made; the matter was taken to the supreme court, and again a decision was rendered that the property must be the site of the library, and though several hearings were subsequently held during 1894 and 1895, the decision of the court remained unchanged.

During this time Mrs. Hunt had died, and Miss Mary Hunt had petitioned the court for the return of her gift, her petition being denied. Finally, Jan. 14, 1896, the city councils voted to take the Greeley property by right of eminent domain, and awarded the owners a sum of between $30,000 and $33,000, which they refused to accept. The owners appealed to the county commissioners to award them a fair price for the property, and claimed that it was worth $45,000. The hearing before the commissioners was set for Aug. 17, 1896, and from that date to the latter part of August, 1897, the hearing dragged along, being continually postponed on one ground or another. It was finally completed last month and is ended, so far as the commissioners are concerned, with the decision, now announced.

During these five years the greater part of the $50,000 given by the Hunts has faded slowly but surely away with the failures of the local savings banks. When it was received it was divided into four parts, $12,500 apiece being deposited in the Nashua, Mechanics' and City Guarantee savings banks and with the New Hampshire Banking Company. Of these institutions three have closed their doors, and all that has been rescued is the amount received through the 30 per cent. dividends which the Nashua and Mechanics' banks have declared.

The decision is regarded by the counsel for the city as a victory, yet it has been an expensive one. It is estimated that the counsel fees amount to nearly $4000, which considerably increases the purchase price. Whether or not the syndicate will appeal to the supreme court has not been stated.

*New Bedford (Mass.) P. L.* In summarizing the report of this library in the Sept. L. J. (p. 450), it was stated that the circulation of fiction and juveniles was 61 %. This was an error, the actual percentage of these classes of reading being 78 %. The former figure "would be very gratifying to us," writes Mr. Pennock, "and no doubt the envy of most librarians — if librarians allow themselves such ignoble feelings as envy. But besides being contrary to the facts the publication of our next report would be likely to give the impression that we were fast going to the bad. About three years ago, when we first began a classified record of circulation, the books classed as fiction sustained over 85 % of the total. By keeping the later books on an open case in the public room, and by the use of printer's ink in various forms, we have brought down the per cent. of fiction to its present figure, and we hope our next report will show an improvement over this one."

An effective method of advertising begun last spring has been the use of printed slips listing new books added from week to week, copies of which have been sent to the public schools for distribution.

*New York, Columbia Univ. L.* The magnificent new library building of Columbia University on Morningside Heights was opened on Oct. 4, when the opening exercises of the 144th academic year were held in its beautiful reading-room. The removal of the books was accomplished during the summer months, and at the date of opening the library was in working condition. In its new building Columbia now possesses one of the finest university libraries in the country, and in its equipment and decoration no care has been spared to achieve the highest efficiency and beauty. At the opening exercises of the university a special feature was the singing of the dedication hymn, composed by C: Alex. Nelson, deputy librarian.

*New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* Final decision on the plans for the new library building will be made in November. The second competition closed on Nov. 1, when the drawings sent in by the 12 competitors were submitted to a jury of seven, composed of three practising architects selected by the competitors, three members of the board of trustees, and Dr. Billings, the director of the library. This jury will select three designs, of which one will be finally chosen by the trustees and submitted for approval to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

On Oct. 4 a dictionary card catalog (including analytical entries) of all accessions to the library since March, 1896, was installed in the main room of the Astor building. To it additions will be constantly made, covering late accessions and the books listed in the other catalogs, until finally it becomes a complete index to the contents of the library. The drawers of the cabinet are removable, and users are required to take them out for examination, thus obviating blocking the use of the catalog by others. This catalog comes as a boon to users of the library. Heretofore the search for a book has been a matter requiring courage and fortitude. There were first the four volumes of the first printed catalog to be consulted, in which were recorded, by authors only, and often in curious fashion, books added before 1860; then came the four volumes of the second printed catalog covering 1860–1880; then fol-

lowed the card catalog, begun in 1880, of later additions, which was in most respects an example of what a card catalog should not be, while the worn, grimy, and unpleasant condition of the entire series made handling them as disagreeable materially as it was exasperating mentally. It is estimated that the completion of the new card catalog will require about three years.

*New York, Maimonides L.* (Rpt. — 16 months, Jan. 1, 1896 – April 30, '97.) A recent change in the fiscal year necessitated the extension of this report to cover 16 months. The statistics are as follows: Added 1890; total 46,783. Issued, home use 139,701 (Eng. fict. 38 %; German fict. 64 %); ref. use 45,772. Cards in use 2700.

The most important event of the year in the library's history is the removal to new quarters at 58th st. and Lexington ave., which give many advantages of arrangement and convenience. The preparation of a printed catalog of the Americana contained in the library is in progress, and will be carried out in elaborate form. Appended to the report are interesting tables of the comparative popularity of various standard authors and of divers subjects.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* Plans for the new building of the Newark Public Library were accepted on Oct. 7 by the jury of award, which consisted of Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, of Columbia University, E. H. Duryee, of the library board, and F. P. Hill, librarian. The successful architects are Rankin & Kellogg, of Philadelphia, whose design was chosen from 38 submitted. It fulfils admirably the conditions outlined in the terms of competition, and promises to be a fine example of library architecture. Its cost is guaranteed not to exceed $188,000, the limit of cost set by the library authorities having been $190,000. The drawings and full details have not yet been made public. It was recently decided to establish five travelling libraries of 20 v. each for use in the various fire stations of the city. A collection of foreign books — Polish and Italian — were added to the library in October, at the request of residents of those nationalities. The fourth annual exhibition of art-books belonging to the library was held on Oct. 28.

*Ohio State L., Columbus.* The library has begun the publication of a *Bulletin*, of which no. 1 of vol. 1 appeared six weeks since, for June of this year. It records in author and classified lists accessions to the library from January to June, 1897, and gives information as to rules for the use of the library and of the travelling libraries conducted by it.

*Passaic (N. J.) P. L.* A small juvenile library has been placed at the Dundee branch, from which the circulation of books has but recently begun. One of the most useful of recent additions to the library has proved to be a large blackboard, on which are placed literary notes, book news, lists, etc.; a new bulletin-board has also been put up.

*Philadelphia F. L.* The passage of the $12,000,000 loan bill at the November election by a majority of 18,000 insures a new building for the library, as $1,000,000 of the loan is to be devoted to that purpose. This library item was originally incorporated in the bill, but at a meeting of the common council in September was rejected as an unnecessary expense. So immediate and forcible were the protests from the press and the public that at a later meeting the previous decision was reconsidered and the item again inserted. The remainder of the loan will be devoted to street-paving, sewage, water filtration, a public art gallery, school buildings, etc.

*Racine (Wis.) P. L.* The library was formally opened in the afternoon of Sept. 9, and in the evening a public reception with appropriate exercises was held in the council chamber of the city hall, when addresses were made by F. A. Hutchins and Miss L. E. Stearns, of the state library commission. The library is established in pleasant rooms in a business block on Main street, and opens with about 3000 v., the first consignment of which was received on June 1, 1897. The present quarters were not available until Aug. 9, so that just one month was occupied in preparing the library for public use; this preparation was not completed at the date of opening, but it was thought best to let the work go on after the opening of the library rather than keep the public waiting. The establishment of the Racine Library is the result of work begun in the autumn of 1895 by the women of the city, money for the purpose being raised by gift and subscription and many books being given. It is hoped that within three months the library will be thoroughly organized and a printed catalog published.

*Seattle (Wash.) P. L.* (6th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '96.) The main facts of this report were summarized in these columns at the time it was presented to the city authorities (L. J., Feb., 1897, p. 110). The pamphlet, now issued, gives fuller details of the year's work, and shows that the library has entered upon a period of gratifying activity and usefulness. The chief factors in the new régime are a change in administrative methods and removal to more advantageous quarters, By the adoption of the new city charter the library commission heretofore in charge of the library has been superseded, and the librarian has been made head of the department, responsible only to the mayor and city council. All appointments of employes were brought under civil service rules, the librarian having the appointment of all his subordinates; and a new library commission was established, whose powers were practically limited to the making of "proper recommendations to the mayor, city council, and librarian, concerning the management of the library and the purchase of books." "This method of control," says Mr. Smith, "is an untried one, so far as I know, in any important library." The change of location was found to so materially reduce the expenses of the library that it was possible to remove the charge of

10 cents per month for borrowing books, which had been in effect for a year owing to lack of adequate income The making the library wholly free again was also accompanied by the adoption of free access to all books, a plan made possible by the arrangement in new quarters. The librarian finds that while the system causes some additional work to the staff to keep the books in order, "the saving in the cost of serving the public by reason of each person's selecting his own books at the shelves, is fully 33⅓ per cent.; this is, of course, far in excess of any possible losses to be incurred." A children's department has also been established, a new charging system introduced, and the two-book system adopted. "About one-fourth of the borrowers have availed themselves of this last privilege, and the effect in tending to equalize the circulation of the different classes of books has been marked." A bindery has been established, and a monthly bulletin is issued. Mr. Smith's report is a most interesting one, and the enthusiasm and practical energy that it shows promises well for the future upbuilding of the library.

*Spokane (Wash.) City L.* About 500 new books have recently been ordered for the library, which now contains about 4000 v.

*Waterbury, Ct. Bronson L.* (28th rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '97.) Added 1445; total 53,684. Issued, home use 97,292 (fict. .822 %); lib. use 5468. Cards issued 2457. Receipts $53,707.49; expenses $46,867.06.

The home circulation shows a gain of 26⅔ % over that of the previous year, while the reference and reading room use has also considerably increased.

Extra school cards were issued to 19 teachers during the year, the number of teachers availing themselves of this privilege from the beginning being 204, to whom 1093 cards have been issued. "At present no other topic makes so great a demand upon the resources of the reference shelves and the time of the library force as genealogy, and the number of new genealogical works and of works in progress is astonishingly great." Mr. Bassett says, "I have never favored free admission to the shelves as is allowed in some libraries—but if after fair trial it is found that the objections do not far outweigh the advantages, it will not be too late to follow those who are trying the experiment."

*Wauwatosa, Wis. Harwood P. L.* The library which was on the evening of Sept. 7 formally presented to the city of Wauwatosa, and which will be maintained in the future at public expense, instead of by private subscription and the Harwood estate, is one of the best small libraries in Wisconsin. It was started about six years ago, and occupies an attractive little building in a convenient location in East Main street. The library has an interesting history as to origin, which is briefly thus:

The library was established by the estate of the late Oliver Harwood, for years a wealthy citizen of Wauwatosa, which contributed a portion of the income of the estate toward the formation of a public library. In the will of Mr. Harwood provision was made for the payment of a certain portion of the interest of the estate toward the work of Christian education, and it was believed that this direction could be no better carried out than by devoting a portion of the fund to a good library. Later a lot was purchased and presented to the library trustees as a site for a library. A subscription was then started for the erection of a new building, which cost about $3000. At present there are 2500 volumes in the library.

*FOREIGN.*

*Bergen, Norway.* The Public Library at Bergen, Norway, has the distinction, unusual in the northern countries abroad although less so in Italy, of having a woman for chief librarian. Miss Valbag Platon has held that post for a number of years, and has increased the library in that time from a small nucleus to 70,000 volumes. The library is administered in a most liberal manner and is a notable example of the good work of a woman executive. It occupies the upper part of the public market building, where already it is overcrowding its limits, in close proximity to the fish-market, which is the centre of Bergen activity, and where on Saturday mornings nearly every family in the city is represented at the marketing. Miss Platon, who is the daughter of a former mayor of the city, speaks English well, and is most pleased to see English and American visitors. The library, founded by the subscription of citizens, is now supported in great measure from the proceeds of the liquor sales, managed in Bergen on what is commonly known as the Gothenberg system.

*British Museum L., London.* The *Nation* for Oct. 21 contains an interesting article on "The principal librarian of the British Museum," in which not only is the personality of Sir Edward Maunde Thompson gracefully drawn, but the administrative details of the Museum Library, its officers and their work, are described. There are in all about 360 persons in the service of the library, and among those connected with the directive work are names of distinction in the varied branches of knowledge.

"Only men who have taken honors at a university are now allowed to be even enrolled as candidates for employment on the staff of the Museum; and a knowledge of the Greek, Latin, French, and German languages is obligatory. The principal librarian's immediate staff consists of the assistant secretary, the accountant, three first-class assistants, one second-class assistant, three second-division clerks, two boy copyists, and an attendant. Then comes that great division of the institution, so dear to bookmen, the Department of Printed Books, Maps, Charts, and Plans. Of this branch Dr. Richard Garnett, C.B., himself a walking cyclopædia, is the distinguished head. Under him are three assistant keepers, of whom the senior is Mr. George Fortescue, a most popular official. With them co-operate 14 assistants of the first class and 20 of the second class. These gentle-

men are all scholars of exceptional attainments. The linguistic acquirements of some of them are, to the ordinary student, simply amazing. Mr. Bain, for example, is said to be master of about 30 languages, mostly Slavic. But even he does not come up to a former member of the staff, Mr. Martineau, who is said to have been silent in almost all the languages of the civilized world."

The annual "Return" of the library, for the year ending April 6, 1897, has recently been published. The total unmber of visitors was 551,800, and the visitors to the reading-room were 191,363, as against 198,310 in 1891. During the year the printing of the annual catalog has progressed as far as "Taylor." Nearly 12,000 v. and sets of pamphlets were bound, including 2462 v. of newspapers. The work of indexing the provincial newspapers in the possession of the library has been brought down to 1894, 34,083 v. having been examined and 73,267 titles written.

## Librarians.

AMES, Miss Anne Seymour, of the New York State Library School, class of '97, has accepted the position of librarian and head of the department of bibliology in Mt. Vernon Seminary, Washington, D. C. Miss Ames is arranging a valuable course intended to make the girls of the school intelligent users of libraries.

BARROW, Benjamin S., librarian of the Omaha (Neb.) Public Library, resigned his position on Sept. 27, the resignation taking effect on Oct. 31. No new librarian was named by the board, but Miss Edith Tobitt was appointed cataloger and acting librarian. Mr. Barrows succeeded the late Miss Jessie Allan in 1895, having before his appointment been connected with the Union Pacific Railroad in Omaha.

BIRD, Miss Janet, a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '94, has resigned the position of librarian of the Bisbee (Arizona) Public Library to become librarian of the Millersville (Pa.) State Normal School.

CATTELL, Miss Sarah Ware, of the New York State Library School, class of '90, has taken the position of assistant librarian of the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, and assistant in the library course.

DAVIS, Miss Mary L., head cataloger of Pratt Institute Library, has an interesting account of "The American librarians in Great Britain" in the October number of the *Pratt Institute Monthly*. It is illustrated by several good photographic views, and is a graceful and pleasant narrative of that delightful experience.

DUNBAR, Paul Lawrence, the negro poet, author of "Lyrics of lowly life," has been appointed attendant in the reading-room of the Congressional Library.

DUVALL, Miss Linda, of Auburndale, O., has been appointed librarian of Ohio Wesleyan University, succeeding the late Joseph R. Dickinson.

FOOTE, Elizabeth Louise, of the New York State Library School, class of '92, has been appointed cataloger in the New York Public Library.

FRIEDENWALD, Dr. Herbert, was on Sept. 14 appointed Superintendent of the Manuscript Department of the Congressional Library. Dr. Friedenwald was born in Baltimore, though his home has recently been in Philadelphia. He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, where he received the degree of A.B. in 1890. After spending a year in travel and investigation in Europe he entered the post-graduate department of the University of Pennsylvania in order to pursue studies in history, more particularly in American history, under Prof. John Bach McMaster, and in 1894 he received the degree of Ph.D. As part of the work for that degree he devoted seven months in 1892–93, in making researches among the records of the Continental Congress in the keeping of the State Department. Since that time Dr. Friedenwald has pursued his researches at the Historical Society, Philadelphia, and elsewhere, his work dealing extensively with manuscript material. He has earnestly advocated the publication by the government of its Revolutionary archives, and has written an extensive article on the journals of the Continental Congress, with bibliographical addenda, which is to be published by the American Historical Association. At the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A. he presented a valuable paper on "The care of manuscripts," which is published in the October (conference) number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. He has also made many important contributions to the publications of the American Jewish Historical Society.

GAGE–LANGWORTHY. Miss Louise Langworthy, of the New York State Library, class of '97, was married July 15, 1897, to William Stebbins Gage.

GALLINER, Mrs. Hannah Rebecca, librarian emeritus, and for 25 years librarian of the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library, now the Withers Library, died at her home in Bloomington on Oct. 19, after a prolonged illness. Mrs. Galliner was born in 1832 in Chester county, Pa. She was married in 1850, and was a resident of Bloomington for 32 years. In 1870 she was elected librarian, the library at that time being under the private management of an association of women. During the gradual development of the library, its maintenance as a free tax-supported institution and its final establishment in the handsome Withers library building, Mrs. Galliner was constant and devoted in her service, and to her enthusiasm and unflagging work its growth and present influence are largely due. In 1894 her failing health compelled her to withdraw from active work, but she held the honorary position for a year longer, with Miss Evva L. Moore, the present librarian, acting as her assistant.

HAYNES, Miss Frances E., of the New York State Library School, 1896–97, has been elected librarian of the Levi Heywood Memorial Library, Gardner, Mass.

MCCRORY, Miss Harriette L., of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, resigned her position as librarian of the State Normal School, Millersville, Pa., to go abroad in June for several years' study and travel.

TOBITT, Miss Edith, on Sept. 27 was appointed cataloger and acting librarian of the Omaha (Neb.) Public Library, her appointment taking effect Oct. 15. Miss Tobitt, who was for eight years an assistant in the Omaha Library, is a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1896–97, and since her graduation has been employed on the staff of the Institute Library.

WINN, Miss Marjorie, of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has succeeded Miss Janet Bird as librarian of the Bisbee (Arizona) Public Library.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE, *Paris*. Catalogue général des livres imprimés de la Bibliothèque nationale: Auteurs. Tome I.: Aachs–Albyville. Paris, Imprimerie Nat., 1897. 82+569 p. 8°.

M. Delisle contributes to this first volume of the great French catalog a preface covering 82 pages, which is also issued in separate pamphlet form.

BOSTON ATHENÆUM. Catalogue of the Washington collection; compiled and annotated by Appleton P. C. Griffin. In four parts: 1, Books from the library of General George Washington; 2, Other books from Mount Vernon; 3, The writings of Washington; 4, Washingtoniana. With an appendix: inventory of Washington's books, drawn up by the appraisers of his estate, with notes, by William Coolidge Lane. Boston Athenæum, 1897. 12+566 p. O. subs., $5.

This elaborate and sumptuous work is, perhaps, the most notable of recent contributions to Washingtoniana, and in its exhaustive and laborious research it is a monument of bibliographical detail. The material embraced in the catalog is treated with such a degree of painstaking and careful minutiæ, and is in itself of so much interest as showing the characteristics of Washington's mind, that it will long be of prime value to students and librarians whose work is specialized in that direction. The abundant annotations are the result of Mr. Griffin's long research in all accessible collections of Washington's published writings and in the mass of unprinted material in the Department of State, the Congressional Library, the Lenox Library, and other special depositories, while Mr. Lane's appendix traces exhaustively the history of Washington's library from his ownership to the present location of all books, so far as this could be ascertained. There are facsimiles of several title-pages showing Washington's signature, of genuine and spurious book-plates, and a fine frontispiece portrait of Washington. The dedication records the gratitude of the Athenæum to the Boston citizens who subscribed for the purchase, in 1848, of the books from Washington's library, secured by Henry Stevens for the British Museum, and presented them to the Athenæum. Since that gift, Mr. Lane states, but one book from Washington's library has been added to the collection.

The BOSTON BOOK COMPANY'S *Bulletin of Bibliography* for October (no. 3) contains an extremely useful list of "Helps for catalogers of serials," being a short list of bibliographies giving information regarding periodicals, arranged by countries, compiled by Dr. H. Carrington Bolton from material used by him in preparing the new edition of his "Catalogue of scientific and technical periodicals," published by the Smithsonian Institution. It includes also the third instalment of Miss Tucker's "List of books first published in periodicals."

BRITISH MUSEUM. Supplement to the catalogue of the Persian manuscripts, by Ch. Rieu. Lond., 1897.

Reviewed at length in the *Athenæum*, Sept. 18, 1897 (p. 379–381).

The BROOKLINE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for October contains an interesting feature in the publication of the first of a contemplated series of "competitive lists of best books." This is intended to include the more notable of the many "best" lists compiled from different sources — Lubbock's 100 books, Higginson's "Westminster Abbey of a book catalogue," etc. — with annotations and summaries of votes received, reasons for choice, etc. The series opens with the St. Louis "greatest 10 books of the century contest," giving the first prize list in full and the alternative titles from the second and third prize lists. The first included Carlyle's "French Revolution," Darwin's "Origin of species," "David Copperfield," "Faust," "Les misérables," Humboldt's "Cosmos," Macaulay's "History of England," Mill's "Political economy," Ruskin's "Modern painters," and "Vanity Fair." The project is an interesting one, and it is possible that these lists may be kept in type and issued in pamphlet form (without shelf numbers) at a low price when complete, if there seems a possibility of their being useful to libraries. In many libraries requests for lists of "best books" are frequent, and librarians who believe that a compact handbook of the best of these "best book" lists would be of use to them would do well to communicate with Mr. Bolton on the subject.

BUFFALO (*N. Y.*) P. L. Finding list of books and pamphlets: fiction, poetry, drama, literary history and criticism, essays, oratory,

humor, etc. Buffalo, August, 1897. 6 + 276 p. O. 25 c.

Similar in form to the finding lists in other classes of the library previously issued.

The BUTTE (*Mont.*) P. L. has issued a mimeographed list of "Books on engineering subjects and architecture," which covers 33 legal-cap sheets, indicating over 1200 v., and was prepared at the request of the Montana Society of Engineers. It is an author-list only, in one alphabet, and is issued at 25 c.

The CAMBRIDGE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for October contains a short selected list of books and articles on Alaska.

CASE L., *Cleveland, O.* Catalogue of music. 16 p. T.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. Publications: ed. by G: H. Baker, librarian. No. 1: List of books chiefly on the drama and literary criticism. N. Y., printed for the University, 1897. 64 p. l. O.

The Columbia library has now followed the example of Harvard, Cornell, and sister universities in the establishment of "Publications." The collection cataloged in this first issue was selected by Prof. G: E. Woodberry, from a fund given by an anonymous friend of the library; it is supplementary of the general resources of the library, and is rich in collections and in old English works. This is a classified author list, giving fairly full titles and all essential bibliographical information; a valuable feature is the dates of birth and death given for each author listed. Purposes of quick consultation would have been aided by a few cross-references.

CRAWFORD AND BALCARRES, *Earl of.* List of manuscripts, printed books and examples of bookbinding exhibited to the American librarians on the occasion of their visit to Haigh Hall: Second International Library Conference. Aberdeen, University Press, 1897. 76 p. O.

This catalog, compiled by Mr. J. P. Edmond, librarian of Haigh Hall, was prepared and printed for the American delegates to the International Library Conference, and is a most interesting revelation of the wealth of Lord Crawford's rich collection. Many rare manuscripts, beautiful or unique bindings, and interesting broadsides are listed, 596 items being recorded. There are frequent annotations, and the catalog is of equal bibliographical and historical interest.

The ENOCH PRATT F. L. *Bulletin* for October contains, in addition to the list of accessions, an eight-page list of periodicals contained in the library.

EVANSTON (*Ill.*) F. P. L. Annotated finding list: fiction, books for young people, selected lists. Evanston, Ill., June, 1897. 144 p. O.

One of the best annotated fiction lists that we have seen; careful, painstaking, and excellently conceived. "The annotations embrace most of the acknowledged masters of fiction, a number of authors who, though not great, are founders or leaders of certain styles of fiction, and also other writers who hold permanent positions in the line of transmission from generation to generation, connecting links, as it were, in the evolution of the art." The choice of authors for comment shows good judgment and literary perception; the annotations are largely taken from the "List of books for girls and women and their clubs," and other sources, to which the compiler acknowledges her indebtedness, but have been excellently condensed or modified; date of birth is given for most authors. The list comprises "Books about books," listing, with comment, 29 guides to good reading; author and title fiction list (p. 13–99) with annotations of authors and individual works; and special lists, without annotations, covering short stories; novels of art and music; novels relating to questions of the day (evidently a selection only); school and college stories; mythology, fairy tales, legends, etc.; entertaining and instructive books for young people; classified list of books for young people; and author and title list for young people. Neatly printed, bound in an attractive and serviceable cover of brown linen, and altogether a creditable and satisfactory piece of work.

The HARTFORD (*Ct.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for July continues the selected list of "Books of travel, new and old," carried through previous numbers.

The LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for October has an annotated 10-page classed reference list on "Evolution."

The MANCHESTER (*Eng.*) P. F. LS. *Quarterly record*, no. 2, 1897, in addition to the classed list of accessions from April to June, 1897, contains a catalog of the Leigh Hunt division of the Alexander Ireland collection of works by or relating to Lamb, Hazlitt, Hunt, Carlyle, and Emerson, which was presented to the library by T. R. Wilkinson. Books containing ms. notes by Mr. Ireland are indicated.

MANHATTAN EAST SIDE MISSION (*N. Y. City*) F. C. L. Classified catalogue; compiled by Theresa Hitchler. New York, 1897. 16 + 112 p. D.

Prefaced by an author index, including index to biography and author index to German and French books. The fiction and juvenile lists cover 66 pages and are divided into separate author and title lists for each. Lists of German and French books and subject index follow.

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for August–September contains reference list no. 25 on literature relating to Alaska.

The N. Y. P. L. *Bulletin* for September begins the publication of a list of American genealogi-

cal works contained in the Lenox branch. A classed division of general works, including bibliography and methods of research, precedes the list of special works, which are entered under family name, and extend, in this first instalment, from Abbot to Dwight. In the *Bulletin* for October the list is continued from E–L; this number also includes a list of the periodicals relating to geology and mineralogy in the N. Y. Public Library and Columbia University Library (108 titles).

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE (*Eng.*) P. Ls. Catalogue of the Stephenson Branch Library, 1897; comp. by Andrew Keogh. 1897. 6 + 314 p. D.

A cloth-bound, easily handled little catalog, comprising an author list, a title list of English fiction, a D. C. classed list, a "juvenile section," and a subject index. In most cases the class number is given on the left of an entry, the book number on the right, the latter being printed in heavy-face type. Pseudonymous authors are entered under best-known form. Dates are given for books other than fiction; in travel the date of the travel itself is generally given, and in history the inclusive dates covered are indicated, all supplied dates being bracketed.

The OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* for October contains no. 8 of the descriptive reading lists on English history, covering the period of the Commonwealth, 1649–60.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* contains reference lists of special value in its recent numbers. In the August issue, list no. 48 dealt with Sir Walter Scott, and was notable for its fulness and excellence; list no. 49, in the September number, covered "Alaska and the Canadian Northwest territories," and the October number contains list no. 50, on Tennyson.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for September has a short reading list on the Yukon gold fields; the October number devotes its reading lists to New York City and to the "Navy of the United States."

SAN FRANCISCO (*Cal.*) F. P. L. English prose fiction, including translations. San Francisco, June 1897. 128 p. O.

This neat cloth-bound volume, although superseding the catalog of 1891, does not take its place, for the classification and annotations that made that catalog so indispensable as a library tool are not continued in its successor. The present catalog is a simple title-a-line, author and title list, giving contents of series and collected stories by different authors, and noting also changes of title.

The SAN FRANCISCO P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a well-selected and interesting classed list of "References on the development of the English novel," by F. J. Teggart, of Leland Stanford, Jr., University.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* contains in the September and October issues a classed list on "England in the Victorian era," prepared for the winter course of a local literary club.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* concludes, in its September issue, the author-list of juvenile works in the library continued through preceding numbers. The number for October gives the first instalment of a reading list on "Alaska and the Yukon gold fields."

TATE P. L. *Streatham, London, Eng.* Catalogue: 3d ed., London, 1897. 372 p. O.

Lists 17,000 v., an addition of 11,000 since the issue of the first catalog in 1891. A short-title dictionary list, entry being made under pseudonyms, with references from real names, and contents of volume and series being given. Works or articles relating to an author are entered in a nonpareil note under author's name.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, *Eng.* Catalogue of the Persian manuscripts in the Library of the University, by E. G. Browne. Cambridge, Univ. Press, 1897.

Reviewed at length in the *Athenæum*, Sept. 18, 1897 (p. 379–381).

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains special lists on the Victorian era and Alaska; the October number has a special list on Greece.

WILMINGTON (*Del.*) INSTITUTE F. L. Handbook no. 3: a classified list of selected books for young people. 36 p. T.

The Library of the RAILROAD BRANCH Y. M. C. A., New York City, has issued a 12-p. folder listing the "Books for locomotive engineers and firemen" in the library. Mr. Stevens, the librarian, prefaces the list with a brief descriptive "headlight." About 100 v. are listed.

## Bibliography.

ADRIAN IV. Tarleton, Alfred H. Nicholas Breakspear (Adrian IV.): Englishman and Pope. London, Arthur L. Humphreys, 1896. 17+292 p. 4°.

Contains a 3-page bibliography.

ARABS. Chauvin, V. Bibliographie des ouvrages arabes ou relatifs aux Arabes, publ. dans l'Europe chrêt. de 1810 à 1885. Livr. 1. 2: Preface, table de Schnurrer, Les proverbes, Kalilah. Liége, 1892–97. l. 8°.

CABOT, John *and* Sebastian. The careful and painstaking "Cabot bibliography" compiled by George Parker Winship, and published in the Providence (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for June, has been reprinted in a compact pamphlet, which will be welcomed by those interested in the literature of American discovery.

GEOGRAPHY. Annales de géographie: biblio-

graphie de l'année 1896, publiée sous la direction de MM. Paul Vidal de la Blache, L. Gallois et Emm. de Margerie. Paris, A. Colin & Co., 1897. 300 p. 8°. 5 fr.

The volume for 1895 was noted in L. J., Oct., 1896, p. 476, and the present is similar to its predecessor in arrangement and scope. Of much value in the special field it covers and as an authoritative guide to the best geographical literature of the period.

GETCHELL, M. S. The study of mediæval history by the library method for high schools. Bost., Ginn, 1897. 8+74 p. S. 55 c.

Although intended for school use this will be useful in libraries as a help in guiding to literature of the subject. The 71 books of reference used are given in a prefatory author list; then follows a chronological tabulation of the periods and events of the mediæval epoch, 476–1492, accompanied by references to the authorities selected for each, with citation of chapters and pages covering the essential facts.

HAWTHORNE, Nathaniel. A "Bibliography of writings of Nathaniel Hawthorne," by G. M. Williamson, is contained in the *Bookbuyer* for September and October.

HOUSSAYE, Arsène. Lemaître, E. Arsène Houssaye: notes et souvenirs, bibliographie. Rheims, Michaud, 1897. 9+210 p., por. and facsimile of autograph. 8°.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. *Municipal affairs*, the new quarterly published by the Reform Club of New York, devotes a considerable space in each issue to bibliographical record. The extended bibliography of municipal government published in the first number (March, 1897), was continued in June by an index covering the six months preceding, and the September issue indexes in similar form the literature of the subject appearing during the previous three months. The bibliography of each quarter will be covered in this way in future issues.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE. Bibliographie der Deutscher Zeitschriften-Litteratur, band 1. Leipzig, Fr. Andräs Nachfolgen, 1897. subs. 7.50 m.

POULTRY. U. S. *Dept. of Agriculture.* Library bulletin, October, 1897: a bibliography of poultry; comp. by Emma B. Hawks, cataloger, under the direction of the librarian. 32 p. O.

Printed on one side of the page only; an author list classified under general works, periodicals, government publications, and state publications; and followed by a subject index. Books not seen by the compiler are indicated, and the list is a careful and deserving piece of work.

SHAKESPEARE. Moyes, John. Medicine and kindred arts in the plays of Shakespeare. Glasgow, James MacLehose & Sons, 1896. 14+123 p. 12°.

Contains a 4-page bibliography of Shakespearean medicine.

SLEEP. Manacéïne, Marie de. Sleep: its physiology, pathology, hygiene, and psychology. N. Y., Scribner, 1897. 8+341 p. il. D. (Contemporary science ser.) $1.25.

Divided into four chapters, each of which considers one of the phases indicated in the sub-title; each chapter is followed by a special bibliography of from six to nine pages.

SOCIOLOGY. Henderson, C. R. The social spirit in America. Meadville, Flood & Vincent, 1897. 350 p. 12°, (Chautauqua Reading Circle Literature.) $1.

Contains a 9-page bibliography, classified according to the chapter headings.

W. S. SONNENSCHEIN has issued in separate form the various divisions of his great "Reader's guide." These make individual bibliographies, which so far cover the following subjects: archæology and antiquity; arts, trades, and sports; geography; history and historical biography; literature; medicine; mythology and folklore; philology and ancient literature; philosophy; science; social and political economy; law and education; theology. Those libraries that have not been able to afford the comprehensive volume should find a selection of these separate bibliographical issues of much helpfulness, though naturally the lack of an index hampers their use.

TENNYSON, Alfred. Part 2 of the "Tennyson bibliography," which Mr. T. J. Wise is contributing to the *Athenæum*, appears in the issue of that periodical for Sept. 18 (p. 388–389). It deals with complete volumes of biography and criticism, and lists 23 titles; a further instalment is given in the number for Sept. 23, p. 419.

WHITE, *of Selborne.* Martin, E: A. A bibliography of Gilbert White, the natural historian and antiquarian of Selborne: published under the auspices of the Selborne Society. Lond., The Roxburghe Press, 1897. 274 p. D.

WURTEMBERG. Heyd, Wilhelm. Bibliographie der Wurtembergischen Geschichte. Stuttgart, Kohlhammer, 1895–96. 2 v. 19+346; 347–793 p. 8°.

*INDEXES.*

THE CUMULATIVE INDEX TO PERIODICALS began with its September number a new series, containing only references to magazines from September, the August issue, containing references from January to August, making the first series of the year. This change, which makes the August number a half-yearly volume supplemented by later issues, was necessary on

account of the accumulation of proof after the first six months, which made it a matter of much difficulty to issue the index on the regular date. The December number, containing all the references for the year and entries from 25 magazines not included in the monthly issues, will form the annual volume, and will be published as soon after the Jan. 1 as practicable.

POOLE'S INDEX, 1892–96. The third supplement to "Poole," covering the five-yearly period 1892 to 1896 inclusive, is announced for early publication. Like the previous volume, it is edited by William I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, with the co-operation of many members of the American Library Association, and issued in uniform style with the preceding volumes. This third supplement, much of which has appeared in the yearly volumes of the "Annual Literary Index," will be nearly one-third larger than either of its predecessors—a fact that is striking evidence of the large increase in the number of periodicals requiring inclusion in such an index. Of the 185 sets covered by this volume, 60 have not been indexed in any previous issue, and of these 42 have existed only since 1891. The discontinuance of 33 sets indexed in the volume of 1887–92 only partially offsets this increase, the net gain being 27. There are 1355 volumes indexed in this volume, as against 1068 in the previous one.

Mr. Fletcher gives in his preface an interesting comparison as to the life of periodicals, based on the tables included in the several volumes in the "Index." These show that "the whole number of periodicals indexed in 'Poole' from the beginning is 404, of which number 195, or 48 per cent., were continued beyond the year 1891." The figures given show an increase, by decades, from the six periodicals of 1801–10, with which the Poole sets originated, to 90 in 1881–90, and 55 for the six years 1891–96, the present being the most productive period of all. Among the periodicals now first included in the new supplement are the *Outlook* and *Independent*, of which the most important articles only are indexed, and the entire set of the *Magazine of Art*, the valuable contents of which are fully covered.

Mr. Fletcher introduces his new volume with a touching and appreciative sketch of the late Dr. Poole, of whom an excellent portrait will appear as frontispiece. It is interesting to note that the name of Poole, which, as Mr. Fletcher says, "must always be connected with this series of indexes," is now again actively associated with it, in the person of Franklin O. Poole, a son of the founder of the index, who has acted as co editor of the supplement.

U. S. *Dept. of Agriculture: Division of Entomology.* General index to the seven volumes of *Insect Life*, 1888–95. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1897. 145 p. 8°.

This little volume contains four indexes: authors, illustrations, plants, and a general index.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

*Faye Huntington*, pseud. of Mrs. Theodosia Maria (Toll) Foster [authority of Mrs. Foster]. Kirk's Supplement to Allibone and Cushing's Pseudonyms give the name as Mrs. Isabella H. Foster, and many library catalogs have followed these authorities. N. E. B.

"Taken by siege," originally issued anonymously in 1887, is now published in a new edition, with the name of the author, Miss Jeannette M. Gilder, by Charles Scribner's Sons.

## Humors and Blunders.

GOOD GUESSING.—*Borrower:* I want a book about a man traveller.

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AS OTHERS SEE US. The Newark (*N. J.*) *Daily Call* gave not long since an interesting short account of the London International Library Conference, based evidently upon the personal narrative of one of the pilgrims. The English newspapers, said this reporter, "took the conference and the tour of the librarians very seriously, as English papers are liable to take everything. Only once did they seem to find anything funny to put in type, and that was at Plymouth, when they remarked upon the peculiarities of speech of the Americans, 'colloquialisms,' they called them. A big reception was given the visitors at Plymouth, and a local paper commenting upon it said: 'Had the waiters been less discreet they would inevitably have betrayed some amusement at the colloquialisms. One gentleman, whose railway journey had evidently induced great thirst, was anxious to allay it with claret cup, and looking longingly at a brimming jug with slices of lemon and lumps of ice floating in it, directed the waiter to 'fetch the pitcher.' 'The glass jug you mean, sir? Yes, sir,' replied the waiter urbanely, as he poured out the cooling blend. 'Waal, I don't care what you call it, glass jug or pitcher. I guess it's the contents I feel particular about,' replied the traveller, his face beaming with contentment as he ladled in some more ice and took in a mighty draught. Another was concerned to find that when he innocently asked for some more 'pie' a plate of pigeon pie was brought him. 'No, I've no use for that,' he remarked quaintly. 'I want pie with plums in it, and not little birds.'"

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The above three volumes are separate issues of the *Revue des Archives, des Bibliothèques et des Musées*, the publication of which has been discontinued by me. Libraries that did not subscribe to the *Revue* now have an opportunity to subscribe to such portions only as may have particular interest for them. Each volume has a special title-page and an index.

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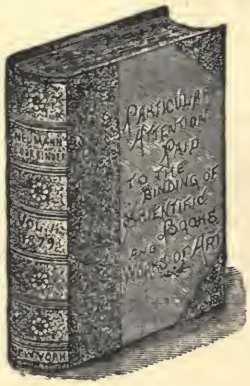


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**Geologische Reichsanstalt.** Jahrbuch. Bd. 1–44 und 2 Registerbdg. Wien, 1850–94. 4to.

**Jahrbuch, und neues Jahrbuch f. Mineralogie, Geognosie, Geologie, und Palæontologie.** Hrsg. v. Leonhard, Bronn, und Geinitz. Mit Beilagen. 89 vols., 8vo. Heidelb. und Stuttg., 1830–91. 83 vols. bound half calf, 6 vols. in parts.

**Jahrbuecher f. Nationalœkonomie und Statistik.** Hrsg. v. Hildebrand Conrad, etc. Bd. 1–62. Supplem. Hefte 1–21 und 2 Registern. Entirely complete set. Jena, 1863–94. 8vo, bound in boards.

**Journal of the Royal Agriculture Society.** From the commencement 1840–85 and 3 Registers. London, 1840–90. 8vo, newly bound, half calf.

**Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry.** Vols. 1–15. Manchester, 1882–96. 4to, cloth.

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THE

# Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO*

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

VOL. 22. NO. 12.

DECEMBER, 1897.

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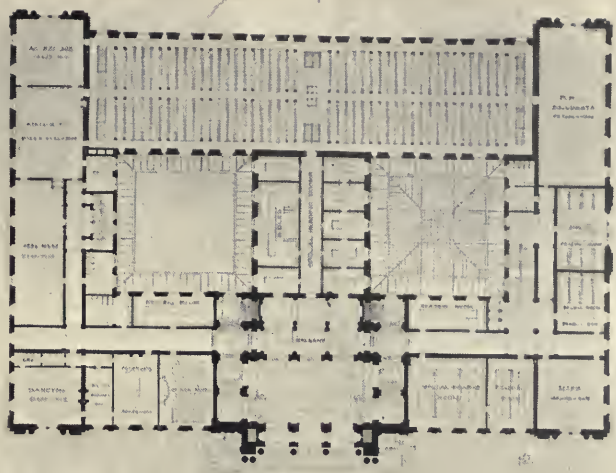

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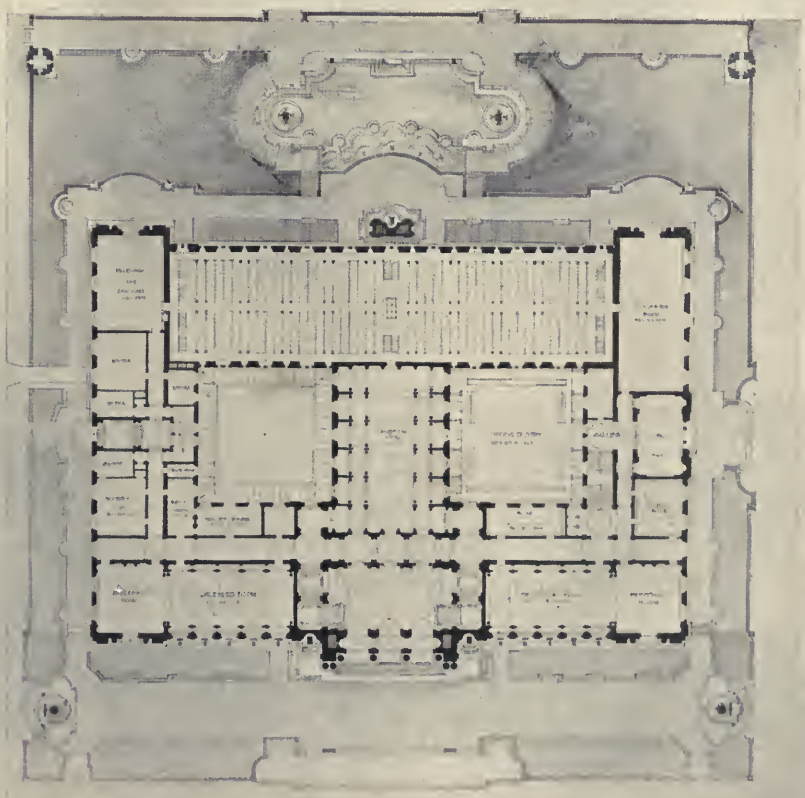

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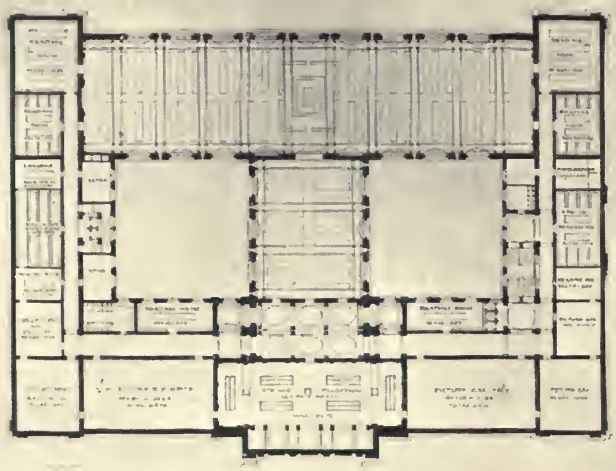

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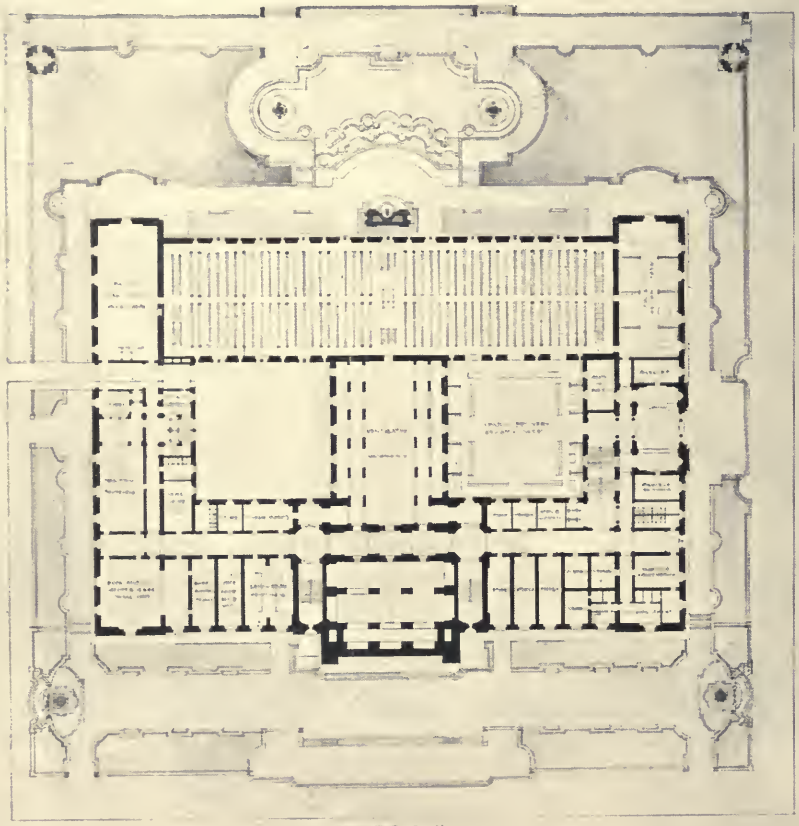

BASEMENT PLAN

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 22. DECEMBER, 1897. No. 12

THE succession to the presidency of the American Library Association, in such event as the death of Dr. Winsor, is not determined by the constitution, nor is it settled by precedent. The constitution provides for vice-presidents without ranking them, and it is only by custom that the vice-president receiving the greater number of votes has been considered the first vice-president. It is not, indeed, clear whether the vice-presidents are substitute executives or chiefly honorary officers. When Mr. Dewey, in 1891, resigned the presidency because he could not attend the California conference, Mr. Soule being then considered the first vice-president, a meeting of the executive board was held at Mr. Soule's office at Boston, when by general consent it was voted that Mr. Green, of Worcester, who was not then a member of the executive board, should be elected president. When Dr. Linderfelt withdrew from the presidency in 1892 a meeting of the executive board was held and it was voted that the first vice-president, Mr. Fletcher, should assume the duties of president. Under these circumstances Mr. Hayes, as the present first vice-president, has very properly assumed the duties of the presidency pending a settlement of the question.

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IT has been the practice of the American association, differing from the English association, to confine the presidency to a working librarian, that is, one who earns his living from the profession; and in view of the uncertainty of the question and of this precedent, Mr. Dewey obtained from the members of the executive board an expression of opinion which proved to be in favor of Mr. Putnam, of the Boston Public Library, as the president, should it be decided that the office was vacant. It would seem that the question can be provisionally settled only by a meeting of the executive board, which is difficult, and finally settled only by the association itself, which should make the succession perfectly clear in the constitution. Probably the easy and graceful solution of a question that is not very important unless it is made so will be that Mr. Hayes, whom every one in the association trusts and honors, will remain as acting president until the conference, which might then find itself at liberty, without reflection upon Mr. Hayes, to designate a president for that conference, unless Mr. Hayes should himself prefer to insist upon provisional settlement of the question by the executive board. Throughout the history of the association the president has been chiefly the presiding officer and official representative of the association, and the secretary the working executive, so that no serious disadvantage is likely to arise from the present situation.

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THE act of the Public Printer, in reducing the Superintendent of Documents to be Librarian of the Document Office, has raised a storm of protest from the library profession and from the friends of civil service reform, which shows a most wholesome condition of the public mind on these relations. A memorial sent from the public depositories of New York and Brooklyn, which is printed elsewhere, shows the library reason against the deposition of a faithful public servant, while the civil service reformers protest that the action of the Public Printer is unwarranted and contrary to law. We have so frequently spoken in commendation of Mr. Crandall's work in the reorganization of the system of public documents, with a view to economy in their production and effectiveness in their distribution, that it is neither necessary nor possible to say more. But the best evidence of his effectiveness is shown by the fact that the index to the documents of the last regular session of Congress was ready, in most satisfactory shape, for the use of the members of this Congress before the opening of the session. This in itself is a most important economy, as giving to Congressmen, with no waste of time, immediate reference to the public business of the last session, which they are to continue.

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WHAT is most remarkable in Mr. Crandall's career is that those who most opposed his appointment, among them the LIBRARY JOURNAL, because of its political origin, and because it put aside Dr. Ames, who had done so much in a like direction, have become his most

steadfast supporters, the best testimony possible to the value of his service. It is a great satisfaction that the same is becoming true in the case of Mr. Young, as Librarian of Congress; his selection of fit men for the several chiefs of departments has made it possible for the library profession, so far as consulted, to concur unanimously in the suggestion that the office of the Superintendent of Documents should now take its place in library relations as part of the national library, and find ample and fitting room in the new library building instead of temporary and expensive quarters in a private building in Washington. This will be a direct saving to the government and an immense advantage to the office and the people. Incidentally, one result of Mr. Young's appointment has been the vindication of Mr. Spofford from any suspicion of wrong-doing that those who did not know him might have had in connection with the shortage in his accounts. The discovery of uncashed checks and unused money orders, forgetfully stowed away for years, has made his integrity clear, while justifying the change that has relieved him from the responsibility of an executive officer and placed him in a position fitting to his temperament, and in which his knowledge and experience should have full play.

---

WITH the acceptance of the plans for its new building, the New York Public Library enters upon the final stage of its preparation for the great work that awaits it as the centre of library interests in the second greatest city in the world. Throughout this preparation nothing has been more remarkable than the rapidity and smoothness with which the successive steps in the library's development have been accomplished. There have been no halts, no apparent obstacles, in a course that at first sight seemed to offer insuperable difficulties; but the whole work has been so wisely planned and so skilfully directed that the seeming ease of its accomplishment belies the real character of the task. Yet there is a second reason for the way in which the path has been made smooth for the library's progress, and that is the realization on the part of the public of what the Public Library means to them. In New York this realization has been long deferred, but that it has come at length the use made of the present library equipment of the city shows with surprising force. The circulation of books from New York libraries within the last year was over two million volumes from a total supply, for circulating purposes, of less than 400,000 volumes — or on an average of five to one; a showing that foreshadows the results that must follow upon an organized and adequate library system, branching throughout the greater city and bringing books within the reach of all. The difference between the library conditions in New York to-day and those of five years ago, great as it is, is as nothing to the contrast that can surely be predicted between the conditions as they exist to-day and as they will be five years hence. Nor can it be doubted that the same wisdom and foresight that have created, within two years, the New York Public Library, will recognize the great opportunities now opening before it and guide it to a future of usefulness the limits of which it is hard to foresee.

---

OF the building itself, it may fairly be said that it is a *library* building, in a sense not often applied to examples of library architecture. Library utility and the practical needs of library administration, rather than monumental features or artistic "effects," have been the objects held steadily in view by the trustees and the director, emphasized in the suggestive plans, and finally recognized by the architects in a building that while fully meeting æsthetic requirements is a model and an example of what a library building should be. The main outlines of the building are familiar to librarians, through their presentation at the Philadelphia conference and elsewhere, and it is especially gratifying that none of the features that in the preliminary plans called forth the heartiest library approval have been eliminated in the final designs. One unimportant reading-room alone has been sacrificed to architectural considerations; but that is the only instance in which artistic claims have been emphasized at the expense of practical needs. Here, as elsewhere, the working from within outward, from the practical requirement to the artistic effect, has made the success which, as the basis of all good building, may be expected from it. Perhaps the most notable feature of the building is the provision made for readers, in which respect it surpasses any other library in the world. The British Museum reading-room, with its 450 seats, is in a chronic condition of overcrowding; at Boston the lack of sufficient reading-room accommodation is a danger of the immediate future, and the same is to be feared for the Chicago library. In the main top-story

reading-room of the New York Public Library there will be 800 seats, while provision for 250 additional readers is made in the several smaller special reading and study rooms. The plans as a whole deserve the careful attention of librarians, and the hearty thanks and congratulations of the library profession should be extended to the library authorities, whose careful planning and wise direction have made possible the production of a building not only beautiful in itself but promising to be the most practical and satisfactory library building that has yet been given to the world.

## Communications.

### *A. L. A. PHOTOGRAPH WANTED.*

ANY one having a copy of a photograph of a group of members of the American Library Association taken in front of the Case Library, Cleveland, will confer a favor on a member of the association by communicating with me. Please note that the photograph is not the one which was reproduced in the LIBRARY JOURNAL of September, 1896. W. H. BRETT.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, Cleveland, Ohio.

### *CORPORATE ENTRY.*

I HAVE been much interested in the discussion in the September number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL on "Corporate entry" by Mr. Cutter and Miss Clarke, in reply to an article by Mr. Fletcher in the November 1896 number of the L. J. Perhaps you will permit an outsider who has no axe to grind, and no system of rules to advocate, to say a word or two on this subject. Mr. Cutter, with his usual sagacity, has seized upon the vital point in this discussion by directing attention to the question, "Is a corporate body (or government) to be considered as the *author* of the publications for which it foots the bills, and for which it assumes official responsibility?" If a corporate body (or government) *is* responsible for publications issued by its authority — and I think every impartial observer will agree that it is so responsible — then the suggestions of both Mr. Fletcher and Miss Clarke are ruled out of court. Assuming that corporate bodies *are* authors of their publications, then Mr. Fletcher's remedy of an assumed evil violates the fundamental principle that all of an author's works should appear under his name. And Miss Clarke's proposed remedy makes confusion worse confounded by confusing the fundamental distinction between *authors* and *subjects*.

All corporate publications should appear *twice:* once under the corporate name, and secondly, under the subject, either by explicit entry or by a reference. If Mr. Cutter's contention is right, that "corporate bodies" *are* authors, then Dziatzko's rule is ridiculous. It is exactly analogous to putting novels under their titles but refusing to put them under their authors.

I regret to be obliged to contradict a lady, but when the feminine intellect condescends to appeal to logic it must expect to be judged by the rules of that science and not by sentiment. In my opinion Miss Clarke's suggestion is even worse than Mr. Fletcher's. Mr. Cutter's rule and practice is all right and can't be improved upon, except in detail. JACOB SCHWARTZ.

FREE LIBRARY GEN. SOC. MECHANICS AND TRADESMEN, New York.

### *BOOKS ON LOCAL INDUSTRIES.*

I WAS interested in "A. B. J.'s" query in the May LIBRARY JOURNAL, p. 244, headed "Are books on local industries unnecessary in public libraries?"

Without assuming to speak for all communities — and certainly not for that represented by your correspondent, which very likely may have its own peculiar conditions — I will say that the result of our observation (in this community) for the past 20 years is very perfectly embodied in the following quotation from a recently published account of "Industrial books and industrial interests in the new building" (Providence P. L. *Monthly Bulletin*, June, 1897, p. 137):

"The question has sometimes been raised — outside of the city — why a public library should thus develop the technical side of its resources, since it is becoming more and more common for the proprietors of the manufacturing industries to build up valuable libraries in their own offices, and since many of the employes will not care to use any others. There are at least two sufficient answers to this question. The first, which concerns the proprietor, is that the utmost diligence, shown by the separate manufacturing establishments, in building up, each by itself, the collection of publications bearing upon its particular specialty, does not remove the necessity for the building up of what may well be called a central reservoir, planned to cover the field as a whole. The lines of studies and researches in industrial subjects intersect, and the inability to see, at short notice, some desired publication, much needed but not foreseen, is always keenly felt. The second answer, and one which concerns the artisan, rather than the proprietor, is that it is only where conditions are unstimulating and the intellectual atmosphere sluggish, that the grades of workmanship remain practically fixed and permanent, with no developments or promotions from one to the other. It is the testimony of those who have lived in communities where a different atmosphere exists and where library resources are generously supplied, that the inferior mechanic of to-day may be the skilled artisan of a year or two hence, and that it is the resources and the atmosphere of the public library which constitutes one of the active factors in the problem."

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, Providence, R. I.

*THE AMERICAN MEMORIAL IN SHAKESPEARE'S CHURCH.*

In the September number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL the suggestion was made that the librarians of the country contribute towards a so-called "American" window in Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-on-Avon, and that the JOURNAL would gladly receive contributions therefor. As it seems to me that this editorial must have been written without full knowledge of what the plan of this window is, I write to urge that any such subscription be given up and enclose the official description of the window signed by the vicar. A glance at this paper will show the bad taste and utter incongruity of the design. It is not a window which commemorates Shakespeare, American literary men, or eminent Americans. The figures are combined in a most unsuitable manner. Archbishop Laud may have been a most worthy man, but no more deserves commemoration from Americans than the Duke of Alva does from the Dutch. Bishop Seabury is a man whom the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church may well honor as their first bishop in this country. But why should the rest of the people remember with gratitude this leader of one of the smaller religious denominations in the United States, whose civic record showed such a lack of devotion to America that he was a consistent Tory throughout the Revolution? When we find Columbus, Vespucci, and Penn together, we feel that to make the picture complete we need only Cecilius Calvert, Captain John Smith, and Thomas Paine.

Trusting that a fuller understanding of the matter may cause you to withdraw your indorsement of this window, which would be almost an insult to the United States, were it not so absurd, I am, BERNARD C. STEINER.

ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY,
Baltimore, Md.

[WE are not converted, or diverted, by Dr. Steiner's letter, from the opinion that it would be a graceful thing on the part of American librarians to take part in completing the memorial window in Shakespeare's church. A picture window is not expected to be an exact historical statement of events, and it does not seem that Dr. Steiner's impeachment of the anachronism and his objections to the window otherwise should really deter American librarians from the proposed proof of international sympathy. The circular to which he refers is printed on page 751. — ED. L. J.]

*THE MAGAZINE OF WESTERN HISTORY.*

FOR some months past I have been endeavoroing to find out just what constituted a complete set of the *Magazine of Western History*. Thus far my search has been unsatisfactory, and I would like to communicate with any reader of the LIBRARY JOURNAL who has a complete, or nearly complete, set of this magazine, with a view to fixing the bibliography.

Under the title of *Magazine of Western History* were published vols. 1–14, from Nov., 1884, to Oct., 1891. The name was then changed to *National Magazine*, and I had until recently supposed that the publication ceased with the number for May, 1894, of vol. 19. I have now reason to believe that the publication was continued. I have recently seen the gentleman who published the periodical, but, curiously enough, he has forgotten when the last number was issued, and has kept neither any record nor any file of the periodical. Some library in this country must have the set complete, and from that library I should like to hear.

One other curious point about this *National Magazine* I have discovered. I have in my possession a number for Aug., 1893, containing pages 113–208, of vol. 18. I also have another number of the same date and volume, containing pages 113–216, and, furthermore, after page 198 the matter is totally different in the two numbers. Can any one tell if this was a common occurrence in this periodical?

FREDERICK W. FAXON.

15½ BEACON STREET,
Boston, Mass.

*THE CHILDREN'S READING-ROOM OF THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.*

IT is fortunately not true — as indicated at page 679 of the November LIBRARY JOURNAL — that "in the new building of the Providence Library considerations of cost" will make "it necessary to give up the addition of a children's library." This was true at the time that the answers were made to Miss Plummer's inquiries in December, 1896, but Mr. Brown's welcome gift of $200,000 relieved us from so dreaded a necessity; and the details of the proposed children's quarters are described in the *Monthly Bulletin* of this library for May, 1897, p. 105–17. WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Providence, R. I.

*A "LIST OF ERRORS IN WELL-KNOWN BOOKS" PROPOSED.*

I SHOULD like the opinion of librarians as to the value of a "List of errors in well-known books." It seems to me that we might co-operate in preparing from reviews, etc., such a list for the reference use of scholars, or to be cut up and pasted into the books. Mistakes are so often copied by writer after writer that every good book should have a list of errors pasted on the inside cover. At any rate the subject is "open for discussion." C. K. BOLTON.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Brookline, Mass.

[MR. BOLTON'S suggestion is interesting, but we fear librarians would be unanimous in nominating Mr. Bolton himself to put it into practice. The library profession has done not a little toward reforming the world, or its immediate corner of it; but to correct all the errors in all the books of all time, or even an inconsiderable proportion of them, would so add to the burdens of the profession, we fear, as to make suicide too alluring a refuge. — ED. L. J.]

## A NOTATION FOR BOOKS.

By Horace Kephart, *Librarian St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile Library.*

I have been frequently asked to explain the system for numbering books which was mentioned in my paper on classification, printed in the proceedings of the World's Library Congress at Chicago (U. S. Commissioner of Education Report, 1892–93, vol. 1, p. 861–897), and as the subject is of some interest to librarians, I venture to present a brief but sufficient description of the plan.

It is very simple. A symbol comprising the numbers from 1 to 9999, followed by not more than two letters, gives us about 7,000,000 combinations. Imagine, first, a library of 7,000,000 volumes arranged in any order you please. By numbering the volumes from 1a to 9999zz, every volume will have a mark identifying it for all time, and showing its exact place in this enormous gathering of books. It makes no difference how logical or minute your classification may be, the notation does not interfere with it in any way.

Now suppose you have only 70,000 volumes. You can label them in the same manner, and allow 100 blanks after each volume, for future growth. But, as no blanks are needed between consecutive volumes of a series, and in many classes it is practically certain that you will never need 100 blanks after each volume, the possible expansion of the system is greater than 100 times, before you will need a third letter.

Again, suppose you begin with an empty building. Proceed as follows:

(1) Prepare a system of classification, of any kind thought best. In making it, dismiss all thought of a notation for the time being, that your scheme may not be fettered by arbitrary limits of 10 digits or 26 letters. If you want 27 subdivisions in a given class, make 27.

(2) When your system is finished, count the headings. For the sake of illustration we will suppose that you have 1058 all told.

(3) Allot the numbers from 1 to 9999 to your 1058 headings, giving to some a single number each, to others 2, to others 5, to English Fiction perhaps 500, and so on, in proportion to the relative number of volumes and probable growth of the various classes in an imaginary library of great size.

This is not mere guess-work. You are allowed an average margin of error of 90 per cent., on the supposition that you begin with an empty building and gradually accumulate 700,000 volumes before you need add a third letter to your symbol. Every library that shelves its books by the method called "fixed location," that is to say, by giving the books shelf numbers instead of class and author numbers, must estimate its growth far more closely than this.

(4) In distributing these 9999 numbers, allow gaps after a few of the main classes, so that the marks for History, Science, Fiction, etc., will begin with round numbers. This is for convenience in tabulating statistics of circulation. But do not carry it too far, or you will waste numbers enormously.

Now decide upon the order of arranging the books under each heading. Many of your headings will probably be further subdivided by subjects, or chronologically, and all of them by authors, titles, editions, copies. In Fiction and individual Biography the arrangement will no doubt be alphabetical from the start, so assign your 500 Fiction numbers to as many alphabetical groups, thus:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9000 | English | Fiction, | authors | from | A to Abbot |
| 9001 | " | " | " | " | Abbott to Abo, |
| 9002 | " | " | " | " | Abu to Adam, |
| 9003 | " | " | " | " | Adams to Ade, |

and so on.

(5) You now have a system of classification, with headings numbered from 1 to 9999, which makes full allowance for the uneven growth of the different classes, and with some of the larger classes subdivided into author-groups. But you have no marks, as yet, for the individual authors, works, editions, etc. These are supplied by the addition of one or two letters to the figures. Decimals following a decimal point may be used if preferred; but they will make the symbols longer, and introduce a feature that requires explanation. Letters are self-explanatory to the dullest intelligence; they afford 702 combinations with two characters, while figures yield but 99; and they give a restful break to eye and ear, if used in the uniform manner here suggested. It is unlikely that more than two letters will be required, save in rare instances, so there will be no ugly combinations to excite the ridicule of the ungodly. As the order of letters and figures is invariably the same, there will be no jumbled-

up hieroglyphics to be deciphered whenever a book is sought or returned to the shelf. What this means to the attendants may be realized by comparing the following specimens of three different systems, all of the same number of characters, and imagining a boy trying to arrange them in proper order:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3483 ge | 36.23.B8 | PQ.D9c |
| 4729 jd | 8727.M.2 | MR4.T6 |
| 8365 cv | 4227.M3 | A26.2G |
| 1246 ab | 3.627.A.b | D299.K |
| 4724 pp | 962.7.Ab | LHZM.A |

(6) You will now decide whether to make the book symbol identify the individual volumes, or only the works and different copies of the same work. In our suppositious library each volume had a distinguishing mark, and it is quite feasible to do this, even in a large library, without going beyond four figures and two letters. But this is not attempted by any notation now in use. It is evidently much easier to provide for future growth if the symbol stops with the work or copy, and the number of the volume is added in charging. If this is done, the capacity of our system is expanded.

(7) The method of applying the letters is illustrated by the following examples:

We will suppose that your classification of English drama is numbered thus:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8500 | English drama in General. | | |
| 8501 | " | " | — History. |
| 8502 | " | " | — Minor topics (subdivided as required). |
| 8503 | " | " | — Collections, A to L. |
| 8504 | " | " | — " M to Z. |
| 8505 | " | " | — Individual authors, A. |
| 8506 | " | " | — " " B, |

and so on.

The literature of Shakespeare, being voluminous, will be subdivided more minutely, thus:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8520 | Shakespeare | — Collective editions. |
| 8521 | " | — Selections. |
| 8522 | " | — Single plays. |
| 8523a–m | " | — Poems. |
| 8523n–z | " | — Ascribed works. |
| 8524 | " | — Translations (arranged under languages). |
| 8525a–h | " | — Language, grammars, glossaries. |
| 8525i–r | " | — Quotations. |
| 8525s–z | " | — Concordances. |
| 8526a–e | " | — Sources. |
| 8526f–z | " | — Special knowledge. |

And so on down through your classification of Shakespeareana.

From this it will be seen that collective editions are marked 8520ab to 8520zz (never use plain a, as you cannot insert anything before it). Now we will suppose that at the start you have only three editions of the collected works, and that you wish to arrange them alphabetically under editors, rather than chronologically. Consult some bibliography, or prepare a table of 700 alphabetical groups, and mark your editions accordingly:

| | |
|---|---|
| 8520ie | Dyce. Library ed. 1885–6. |
| 8520mr | Hudson. Expurgated ed. 1879–81. |
| 8520va | Rolfe. Friendly ed. 1876–84. |

As the library grows, other editions will be interpolated, thus:

| | |
|---|---|
| 8520fm | Clark & Wright. Cambridge ed. 1863–66. |
| 8520ft | Collier. 1842–44. |
| 8520fv | " 1875–78. |
| 8520hd | Delius. 1882. |
| 8520ie | Dyce. Library ed. 1885–6. |
| 8520me | Furness. New variorum ed. 1871– |
| 8520mr | Hudson. Expurgated ed. 1885–6. |
| 8520ms | " Harvard ed. 1880–90. |
| 8520mz | Irving & Marshall. 1887–90. |
| 8520ns | Knight. Leopold ed. 1887. |
| 8520nt | " Miniature ed. 1889. |
| 8520nv | " Reader's ed. 1876–84. |
| 8520qw | Morgan. Bankside ed. 1888– |
| 8520va | Rolfe. Friendly ed. 1876–84. |
| 8520vb | " " " (Another copy.) |
| 8520wp | Singer. Aldine ed. 1875–77. |
| 8520xc | Staunton. Library ed. 1889. |
| 8520xe | " Edition de luxe. 1881. |
| 8520zn | White. 6 vol. ed. 1883. |
| 8520zt | Wright. New Cambridge ed. 1891–3. |

It will be well, at the start, to construct a set of tables of 5, 10, 20, 50, etc., alphabetical groups, to aid in assigning your letters. These can be made in a few hours with the help of such a list of names as Phillips's "Dictionary of biographical reference." They are to be used only as suggestions, and departed from whenever you wish. As the library grows the shelf list becomes its own guide, and the tables are discarded.

I have now shown how to make and apply a notation which will identify, and show the exact relative position of, every subject, author, work, translation, edition, copy, in a library of any size, in which the books are classified on the "movable" plan, with the utmost possible "closeness," by using a series of symbols as short and simple as 1234az, which does not fetter the classification in any respect whatever. A part only of this result has been attained hitherto at the cost of malformed classifications, and of exceedingly long and complicated marks, like 353.97476S or Y47D.G55F.Ebo. It needs no demonstration to show that when attendants must find, charge, and return books by means of such fearful marks, they are wasting time, temper, and money.

What have we sacrificed to gain this simplicity and clearness? Nothing but a feature miscalled "mnemonic." I have used such a

system for several years, and have never found its mnemonics of the slightest practical value. On the contrary, this feature imposes an additional burden upon the memory, if one pays any attention to it. I do not know to-day what the initial letters of my notation stand for, nor have I any occasion to. I know the *order* in which subjects follow each other on the shelves. This must be learned in any case. Why, then, should I further tax my memory with such formulæ as F=History and G=Geography? It is like balancing a half-sack of grain on a horse's back by shifting it all to one end and putting a grindstone in the other.

## A HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN LIBRARIES.

By Frederick J. Teggart, *Assistant Librarian Leland Stanford Jr. University Library.*

It was a wise resolve of the leaders in the library movement 20 years ago, the work being large and all ahead, that there should be no retrospective glances on the part of those who enlisted to share the new burdens of library service.

The policy, as needed no prophetic insight to foretell, has been crowned with a great success. The last score of years has witnessed such an aggrandizement of the libraries of the United States that the eyes of Europe, formerly turned on us with ill-disguised amusement or contempt, are now put to the service of learning from our results. And we are as yet scarce out of the initiatory stage of progress.

Placed together, the two pages of library statistics contained in the report of the Commissioner of Education for 1869, as against the 260 pages published by the Bureau of Education in 1897, not improperly may be taken as a measure of the increase in the importance of such institutions in the eyes of our own people.

Such statistics are the ever-varying record of the outward and visible phenomena upon which an estimate of library conditions must largely depend. In the reports mentioned, the class, number of volumes, extent of use, and source of financial support of each library are stated with a certain amount of uniformity. The particular use or value of such figures consists, presumably, in their present interest; and the accumulation of them will also in time supply some student with exhaustive materials for $n+1$ number of diagrammatic charts.

When General Walker remarked in 1870 that "the statistics of libraries have never been very creditable to the census of the United States"[1] he was unconsciously giving expression to a sentiment which has been the experience of all those who have endeavored at any time to state in figures the relative importance of different collections of books. Even accurately determined figures, could such be obtained, "enable one only to form an idea of the relative importance of these institutions, for the value of a library cannot be reckoned from its bulk or number of volumes."[2]

Petit-Radel[3] seems to have been the earliest writer to attempt to show the "État actuel des bibliothèques publiques" by enumerating in a table their number of volumes, including in his book such a list of the principal libraries in France. In attempting a general statistical view of libraries Balbi was followed by Voisin,[4] Edwards,[5] Winsor,[6] Tedder and Thomas,[7] and Richter.[8]

More satisfactorily than by statistics the relative status of the libraries of a city, country, or continent might be shown by descriptive statements compiled by those whose knowledge would insure a just estimate of the particular noteworthiness of each. Such a method applied generally becomes indeed the history of libraries as usually written, notwithstanding that in practice the method has proven unwieldy; and that, even when restricted to a particular country, as by Greenwood[9] and Jewett.[10] The work of the latter contained

[1] "Compendium of the ninth census," p. 505.

[2] Balbi, A. "Essai statistique sur les bibliothèques de Vienne," p. 3. Vienne, 1835. 8°.

[3] Petit-Radel, L. C. F. "Recherches sur les bibliothèques anciennes et modernes." Paris, 1819. 8°.

[4] Voisin, A. "Statistique des principales bibliothèques de l'Europe." Bruxelles, 1837. 12°.

[5] Edwards, E. "A statistical account of the principal public libraries of Europe and America." London, 3d ed., 1849. f°.

[6] In "Seventeenth annual report of the trustees of the Boston Public Library," 1869.

[7] In article Libraries in "Encyclopædia Britannica," 9th ed.

[8] Richter, P. E. "Verzeichniss der Bibliotheken mit gegen 50,000 und mehr Bänden." Lpz., 1893. 8°.

[9] Greenwood, T. "Public libraries." 4th ed. Lond., 1894. 12°.

[10] Jewett, C. C. "Notices of public libraries in the U. S." Wash., 1851. 8°. (Smithsonian reports.)

such information as could be elicited from the officers of the different libraries, supplemented by notes taken from newspapers and other general sources. An enlarged edition was prepared by W. J. Rhees and published by Lippincott in 1859.[11] The impracticability of carrying out such a system to any degree of fulness becomes apparent when one thinks of such works as Macray's "Annals of the Bodleian library." (2nd ed. Oxford, 1890. 8°.) Edwards' "Lives of the founders of the British Museum." (Lond., 1870. 8°.) or Quincy's "History of the Boston Athenæum." (Cambridge, 1851. 8°.)

As early as 1814 a solution of the difficulty was indicated by the portion of Horne's "Introduction to the study of bibliography" (Lond., 1814. 2 vols. 8°.) devoted to a bibliography of the "Catalogues &c., of British [and foreign] public libraries."

Singularly enough Horne's work is not mentioned in a better-known one which was devoted entirely to the literature of libraries—Vogel's "Literatur europäischer öffentlicher und corporations-bibliotheken." (Lpz., 1840. 8°.) Vogel in a most painstaking manner gives the page references to the existing accounts of European libraries, and also indicates their published catalogs. The work of Ottino and Fumagalli[12] on the libraries of Italy is in perfect bibliographical form and illustrates by contrast how badly official work may be done when placed beside the French work which occupies about the same ground.[13]

The indefatigable Petzholdt combined both description and bibliography in his well-known "Adressbuch."[14]

It seems to the present writer that a handbook of American libraries might be prepared on lines taking advantage of the good points revealed by the experiments and experience of others and avoiding their points of failure. Its preparation would of necessity be co-operative and might be carried out most readily by the various state library associations.

It is not without significance in this connection that the Commissioner of Education has published[15] a list of the "Learned and educational societies" of the U. S., giving particulars of their foundation, objects, officers, and publications. The American Historical Society also has printed and reprinted a "Bibliography of American historical societies."[16]

Even more worthy of notice is the awakening of interest in the history of libraries, as exemplified by such papers as Weeks' "Libraries of North Carolina,"[17] Steiner's "Rev. Thomas Bray and his American libraries,"[18] Potter and Bolton's "Librarians of Harvard College" (Bibliog. contributions, no. 52), 1897, and the recent work of Ogle[19] on the free library.

This new historical attitude is no weakening from the original starting-point of American librarianship, but is a testimonial to the efforts of those leaders whose labors have enabled their successors to draw breath from the press of the struggle and to look round them to discover whence they have come and whither they are bound.

The following items are given as a suggestion of the form which might be adopted for the suggested "Handbook."

*CALIFORNIA.*

*Apponyi, F. H.* Libraries of California. S. F., 1878. 8°. 304 p.

*Clark, F. H.* Libraries and librarians of the Pacific Coast. *Overland Monthly.* n. s. 19: 449–464. (Nov., 1891.)

*Whitaker, A. E.* Public libraries of San Francisco and of the Pacific Coast.
*In* Public libs. of the U. S. Special report, 1876. p. 991–1009.

BERKELEY:

1. *Name:* Library of the University of California.
2. *Founded:* 1868. Organic act organizing the university approved Nov. 23, 1868. *Calif. Statutes*, 1867–68, p. 248.
3. *Librarians:* J. C. Rowell, 1875+
4. *Volumes:* 70,000. *Pamphlets:* 40,000.
5. *Income:* Endowment $50,000, Michael Reese fund, income used for purchase of books. Annual appropriations from the general funds of the university for books, periodicals, and expenses.

[11] Rhees, W. J. "Manual of public libraries, institutions, and societies in the U. S., and British provinces of N. America." Phila., 1859. 8°. 18+687 p.

[12] Ottino, G., and Fumagalli, G. "Bibliotheca bibliographica Italica." Roma, 1889–95. 2 vols. 4°.

[13] "Annuaire des bibliothèques et des archives pour 1886." And annually.

[14] Petzholdt, J. "Adressbuch der Bibliotheken Deutschlands." Neu hrsg. Dresden, 1875. 8°.

[15] "Report of the Commissioner of Education" for 1893–94. Wash., 1896. vol. 2, p. 1493–1661.

[16] "Annual report of the Amer. Hist. Soc." for 1895. Wash., 1896. p. 675–1247.

[17] "Annual report of the Amer. Hist. Soc." for 1895. Wash., 1896. p. 171–224.

[18] *Amer. hist. review.* 2: 59–75 (Oct., 1896).

[19] Ogle, J: J. The free library: its history and present condition, etc. Lond., 1897. 8°. (The library series; ed. by Dr. R: Garnett.)

6. *Publications:*
Annual reports,
Included in the annual reports of the secretary of the university.
Contents-index. vol. i. Berkeley, Cal., 1889–90. O. 4+520 p.
Library bulletins:
1. Co-operative list of periodical literature. 2d ed. Ed. by J. C. Rowell. 1892.
2. Notes on library progress, and description of the library building. 1881. (Out of print.)
3. Catalog of the library presented by H. D. Bacon. 1882.
4. Catalog of the Bacon Art Gallery. 2d ed. 1892.
[5] Catalog of the loan book exhibition held at the university. By J. C. Rowell. 1884.
6. Photographs of sculpture presented by John S. Hittell. 1885.
7. Catalog of the theological library presented by A. S. Hallidie. 1886.
8. References for students of miracle plays and mysteries. By Francis H. Stoddard. 1887. (Out of print.)
9. List of printed maps of California. By J. C. Rowell. 1887.
10. Cardinal Guala and the Vercelli book. By Albert S. Cook. 1888.
11. Guide to the literature of æsthetics. By C. M. Gayley and F. N. Scott. 1890. (Out of print.)
12. Classification of books in the library. By Joseph C. Rowell. 1894.
[J. C. R.]
7. *Publications about:*

PALO ALTO (STANFORD UNIVERSITY P. O.):

1. *Name:* Library of the Leland Stanford Junior University.
2. *Founded:* 1885. Act of endowment of the university approved March 9, 1885. *Calif. Statutes*, 1885. p. 49. Opened Oct. 1, 1891.
3. *Librarians:* E. H. Woodruff, 1891–1896.
H. C. Nash, 1896+
4. *Volumes:* 37,500. *Pamphlets:* 25,000.
5. *Income:* Annual appropriations from university funds. Also for support of Hopkins collections, from Timothy Hopkins, Esq.
6. *Publications:* Catalogue of the Hopkins Railway Library by F: J: Teggart. Palo Alto, Cal., 1895. sq. O. 10+231 p.
7. *Publications about:*
*Teggart, F: J:* Hopkins Railroad Library of Stanford University. *Railroad Gazette*, Jan. 18, 1895. [F: J: T.]

SAN FRANCISCO:

1. *Name:* Mechanics' Institute Library.
2. *Founded:* 1855.
Re-incorporated 1869.
3. *Librarians:* P. B. Dexter, 1855–1865.
W: Bausman, 1866.
J. B. Pierce, 1867–1868.
G: C. Hurlbut, 1869–1878.
Horace Wilson, 1878–1894.
A. M. Jellison, 1894+
4. *Volumes:* 75,420.
5. *Income:* Derived from subscriptions (quarterly dues). Expositions. Rents. James Lick endowment—$10,000.
6. *Publications:*
Annual reports, 1891+
Reports of expositions, 1857+
Monthly bulletin, March, 1897+
Catalog, 1867.
7. *Publications about:* [A. M. J.]
1. *Name:* San Francisco Free Public Library.
2. *Founded:* 1878. Act of Legislature, approved March 18, 1878.
Act of Legislature, approved April 26, 1880.
3. *Librarians:* Albert Hart, Mar.–Sept., 1879.
C. H. Robinson, Dec., 1879,–June, 1880.
F: B. Perkins, June, 1880,–Nov., 1887.
J: V. Cheney, Nov., 1887,–Nov., 1894.
G: T. Clark, Dec., 1894+
4. *Volumes:* 85,000.
5. *Income:* Derived from municipal taxation.
6. *Publications:* Annual reports, 1879+
Borrower's handbook, various eds.
Monthly bulletins, Jan., 1895+
Catalog, no. 1, 1879 (done by electric pen).
" no. 2, 1880, Accessions to Nov., 1880.
" no. 3, 1882, Accessions to June, 1882.
" no. 4, 1884, Accessions to May, 1884.
" no. 5, 1888, Accessions to 1888.
" no. 6, 1891, English prose fiction.
" 1896, Finding list of juvenile dept.
" 1897, English prose fiction.
7. *Publications about:*
*Perkins, F: B.* Free public libraries, especially that of San Francisco.
*Overland Monthly*, n. s. 6:424.
[G: T. C.]

*Note.*—My thanks are due to Messrs. Rowell, Jellison, and Clark for the particulars regarding their libraries.

## USE OF INK IN LIBRARIES.

THE *Chap-Book* has entered protest against library restrictions forbidding the use of ink. "The officials of most, if not all, the libraries of our great cities," it says, "have not yet grown out of the habit of treating the people who frequent libraries for the purpose of reference and research as so many babes and sucklings. In particular they show their contempt for them by forbidding them the use of ink. The exquisite exasperation of making extensive notes with a pencil and of having to copy them out in ink when you get home, can only be appreciated by those who have had to undergo the humiliation. Students and readers are, for the most part, respectable grown-up citizens, long familiar with the use of ink and capable of handling it without ruining books, chairs, tables, or the immaculate floor. In none of the European libraries, so far as we know—certainly not in the British Museum, the greatest of them all—is this absurd restriction in force."

## THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE plans submitted in competition for the New York Public Library building, by Carrere & Hastings, of New York, were accepted by the trustees of the library on Nov. 10, when the report of the jury of award was presented and approved. The jury consisted of three practising architects, selected by the competitors — Walter Cook, of New York, Edgar V. Seeler, of Philadelphia, and Cass Gilbert, of Minneapolis; three members of the board of trustees — Alexander Maitland, John L. Cadwallader, and George L. Rives; and Dr. J. S. Billings, the director of the library. Of the 12 plans submitted in the second and final competition three were chosen by the jury, and one of these was recommended for acceptance as best fulfilling the conditions required; the recommendation of the jury was unanimously adopted by the trustees. The final step in the decision was taken on Dec. 1, when the successful plans were submitted by the trustees to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, which voted unanimously for their adoption and also accepted the contract with the trustees, by which the building erected in accordance with these plans in Bryant Park is to be used by the New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.

The details of the competitions by which the plans were obtained are familiar to readers of the JOURNAL, as are also the main outlines of the building itself, as described in the preliminary plans (L. J., June, p. 296–301) and discussed at the Philadelphia conference (L. J., Oct., p. 133–140). As will be seen from the designs, reproduced as frontispiece to this number, the architects have kept closely to the lines laid down by the library authorities, and have planned a building that while conforming to æsthetic requirements does not sacrifice library utility to architectural display. In general character the building is classical, the style being Renaissance, based upon classic principles, but modern in feeling, for the architects' purpose has been "to express the spirit of our times, following and carrying out the historical continuity of style, without slavishly following any particular period or without endeavoring to invent a new style." With the same purpose, the arrangement of the interior is made to express itself frankly on the exterior, the large pediments showing the main reading-rooms, the attic over the cornice indicating the picture galleries, the 12-foot windows denoting the special reading-rooms, and the side elevations being left simple in character to express the business purposes to which this part of the building will be devoted.

The reservoir site in Bryant Park on which the building is to stand is about 482 x 455 feet in diameter, and is bounded by 42d street on the north, 40th street on the south, Fifth avenue on the east, and Bryant Park on the west. The Fifth avenue front, which is the main façade of the building, does not extend the whole length of the block, but will be bordered at each end by an open space of park, in which the sculptured shafts shown in the design will probably be replaced by low fountains. The greatest projection of this façade will be 75 feet back of the Fifth avenue building line, thus giving a wide terraced approach to the main entrance. This entrance, approached by wide flights of steps, consists of three great arches, each 35 feet high and 15 feet wide, and having panels above with the three words "Lenox," "Tilden," "Astor," and opens into a monumental hallway, 80 feet long and 40 feet wide, rising through two stories. To this hallway one reading-room on the second floor has been sacrificed, but this is about the only feature of library utility eliminated from the original suggestive plans by architectural considerations. Around all four sides of this hallway are arches similar to those of the entrance; on the west side only are balconies, overhanging from the second floor. Between the two courts, about which the whole structure centres, is the main exhibition room, in which will be displayed rare bindings and bibliograpical treasures, while at each end of the hallway are 12-foot staircases, ascending one flight to the main hallway on the second floor, crossing this hallway and by another flight leading to the entrance to the great reading-rooms on the third floor.

There is a second important entrance on 42d street, raised only a few steps above the sidewalk and entering at the basement level, from which a large vestibule extends through the basement and first story, and makes a direct approach to the great delivery-room, which occupies the right-hand court and rises from the basement through the first story, being roofed with glass at the level of the sills of the first-story windows. This room is 85 feet square, and will have a delivery-counter at least 60 feet long, seats for 150 borrowers, 2000 feet of shelving, and about 16,000 square feet of bulletin boards. The location of the delivery-room in the basement is a modification of the first suggestive plans, in which this department was placed on the first floor.

A third entrance is on 40th street, intended for the use of the library force and communicating directly with stairs and elevators. This part of the building is devoted to the administrative work of the library, and contains the office of the business superintendent, the receiving and checking rooms, the cataloging, accession, ordering, printing, and binding rooms. In the 40th street corner of the second floor there will be the director's office and a room for the trustees. There will also be a large lecture-room.

The north side on 42d street will be devoted mostly to special reading-rooms, and separate rooms for maps, public documents, newspapers, periodicals, and music. The top floor on this side will be used for the Stewart collection, which must be kept in one room, and for other picture galleries and special exhibitions.

The stack-room at the rear of the building will contain seven tiers of stacks, with a book capacity of about 2,000,000 v., over which, on

the top floor, is the great T-shaped reading-room, with accommodations for 800 readers, without columns or partitions, and with 3500 linear feet of shelving for 50,000 reference-books. Direct communication is effected between the stacks and the reading-rooms, and the stacks and the delivery-room, so that a minimum of time will be consumed in the issue of books.

The children's rooms (80 readers), periodical reading-rooms, and the library for the blind (20 readers), have been arranged for on the first floor; the heavier machinery — as delivery station and branch outfitting rooms — is in the basement; and the general grouping of departments shows how thoroughly the relations and requirements of the different divisions of the library's work have been recognized and provided for; while the array of rooms, ranging from Bible-room, photographic-room, map-room, music-room, and public lecture rooms to employes' lunch-rooms, bicycle storage rooms, and public telephone room, demonstrate strongly how varied are the activities of the great public library of to-day.

A comparison of the accepted plans with the suggestive sketches prepared by the library authorities (L. J., June, p. 299), is interesting. The central conception of two square courts, about which, on three sides, shall be grouped the various departments, while the great stack occupies the rear, has been adhered to in its entirety, and solves the question of future extension. In the basement the extension of the stack-room, beyond the space at first assigned to it, the installation of the delivery-room and the 42d street entrance, and a minor rearrangement of some of the departments, are the modifications of the original suggestions; on the first floor the chief changes include the monumental hallway, with its balcony, the exhibition-room, the blind department, and a shifting of the newspaper-room; while the alterations on the second and third floors consist almost wholly in a shifting of departments. Such a comparison of the two sets of plans as is here indicated will repay careful study, and will demonstrate how admirably the work of the library authorities has been done.

The total authorized appropriation for the building is $2,500,000, from which the cost of the removal of the reservoir must be defrayed. The specifications provided that the cost of the building proper should not exceed $1,700,000, but it is possible that this limit may be raised. White marble or Indiana limestone will be the material used in its construction, the decision being largely a matter of cost. The removal of the abandoned reservoir from the library site was authorized by the Commissioner of Public Works on Nov. 29. A meeting of the board of trustees was held on Dec. 8, when the action of the city authorities in regard to the new building was reported to the board. The contract made with the city was approved and its execution ordered, and consulting engineers were appointed for the different departments of the building.

## LIBRARY STATISTICS OF GREATER NEW YORK.

The following table gives the circulation of the chief free libraries in Greater New York, for the year ending June 30, 1897, as reported by W. R. Eastman, of the University of the State of New York:

NEW YORK AND BRONX.

| | |
|---|---|
| N. Y. Free Circulating Library | 841,440 |
| Aguilar Free Library | 436,869 |
| General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen | 243,738 |
| Maimonides Free Library | 104,776 |
| Cathedral Free Circulating Library | 94,167 |
| Y. W. C. A. Library | 58,606 |
| St. Agnes' Free Library | 53,680 |
| University Settlement Free Library | 42,771 |
| Webster Free Library | 41,847 |
| Washington Heights Free Library | 41,737 |
| College Settlement Free Library | 17,000 |
| Riverside Free Library (10 months) | 15,848 |
| De Witt Memorial Free Library | 12,460 |
| Olivet Church Library | 4,530 |
| Broome Street Free Library | 986 |
| N. Y. Free Circulating Library for the Blind (four months) | 86 |
| | 2,010,541 |

BROOKLYN.

| | |
|---|---|
| Pratt Institute Free Library | 314,290 |
| Union for Christian Work Lending Library | 198,732 |
| Bay Ridge Free Library | 12,649 |
| Fort Hamilton Free Library | 12,289 |
| Bath Beach, New Utrecht Free Library | 10,392 |
| | 548,352 |

BOROUGH OF QUEENS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Flushing Library Association | 19,890 |
| Long Island City Public Library | 19,332 |
| Jamaica Union School Library | 1,714 |
| College Point, Conrad Poppenhusen Assoc. Library | 610 |
| Newtown Union School Library | 504 |
| | 42,050 |

RICHMOND COUNTY (STATEN ISLAND).

| | |
|---|---|
| Tottenville Union School Library | 2,100 |
| New Brighton School District No. 2 | 1,310 |
| | 3,410 |

SUMMARY.

| | |
|---|---|
| New York and Bronx | 2,010,541 |
| Brooklyn | 548,352 |
| Queens | 42,050 |
| Richmond | 3,410 |
| | 2,604,353 |

One of the most interesting showings is made by a library not in the list — the Harlem Library, 32 W. 123d street, New York, which has been for some years a subscription library. It was not opened free to the public until Sept. 1, 1897, and is therefore not included in the statistics given. In the two and a half months following it had a circulation of nearly 25,000 v. The contrast, in New York City, in the pro-

portion of the circulation to the circulating supply of books is shown by the fact that the latter consists of but 398,089 v. It is interesting to compare the issue of books from some of the libraries with the supply. For instance the N. Y. Free Circulating Library, with 111,433 v., issued these nearly 850,000 times, the Aguilar circulated over 400,000 from a stock of 42,704, the University Settlement issued its 3705 v. 42,771 times, while the most astonishing record is that of St. Agnes' Library, which with 3736 v. shows a circulation of 53,680.

The library appropriations for 1898 made by the New York Board of Estimate and Apportionment proved a remarkable contrast to those of the previous year, and set an unprecedented example. Each library was awarded the full grant allowed by law, and the work done by the libraries during the year was thus given immediate and substantial recognition. The New York Free Circulating Library was awarded $82,000, in lieu of the $50,000 appropriated last year; the Aguilar Free Library received $41,500, instead of $14,000 as previously; the Y. W. C. A. received $5300; St. Agnes' Library, which last year was granted $200 received $5000; the University Settlement Library was awarded $4000, and the Webster Free Library $3800. The total appropriation was $166,200 as against $97,000 the year before.

## THE NEW COLUMBIA.

THE removal of Columbia University to its new site, between 116th and 120th streets at Morningside Heights, marks an important era in the history of the institution. Although work upon the new buildings was much delayed by the labor strike in the spring, which was settled largely through the efforts of President Seth Low as arbitrator, preparations for the removal of the several departments of the university were actively entered upon as soon as the last college year had closed. The work went steadily on during the summer, officers and professors cutting short their vacations and giving themselves zealously to the arduous work before them; a task which seemed and in fact was a herculean one — to transfer all the outfit of a great educational institution and re-establish it in working order in its magnificent new and commodious quarters. It was announced that the work of the new year would begin at the new site promptly on the date named in the calendar; and Columbia was ready as she had promised. On the morning of Monday, Oct. 4, 1897, at 9.30 o'clock, a simple religious service was held in the great reading-room of the new library, which was filled to overflowing with students, officers, and members of the board of trustees. President Low made a brief address, in which he sketched the growth and progress of the institution from college to university, and with deep feeling cordially welcomed the students and officers of Columbia to her new home.

"This is simply a homecoming for us all," said he. "Every year I have had the pleasure of welcoming you back to your work after a summer of rest and refreshment. But this year it is my unspeakable happiness to say to the men of Columbia, 'Welcome home.' At 49th street we have always had the sense of being pilgrims and of having there no continuing city. But to-day we have come home. Here may grow up, as we trust, for generation after generation, those traditions that only the years can bring. The same life will inhabit these new buildings that began its career of usefulness and of instruction on the old site near the city hall almost a century and a half ago; yet for a generation men of Columbia have not seen their Alma Mater embodied in buildings and grounds of a character to bring to them a sense of her unchanging identity, and to give to them a home feeling when they enter her doors. To-day that element of permanency has been secured, and we may plan our work here as a something that is to go on, as we trust, for decade after decade, so long as the city shall last." Fitting words truly and well spoken, since he who uttered them had made possible the grand temple of learning beneath whose lofty dome they were assembled, and which could have had no better consecration than the plain chapel service of that glad morning. The university was thus opened and regular work was at once begun, of course under some limitations and restrictions, as workmen were still engaged in putting the finishing touches upon the buildings.

The first vanload of books was sent from 49th street on the morning of Aug. 23. The books were packed in cases as they were taken from the shelves, and each case was marked with the shelf-numbers of the books contained in it, and also with the number of the room in the new library to which that class of books was assigned. The cases were of uniform size, made to hold from 150 to 200 volumes, and with open tops. Each case had two iron bands around the bottom, coming nearly to the top, with the ends projecting slightly from the sides and having holes into which corresponding hooks on long handles could be inserted, thus enabling two men to transfer each case wherever wanted with ease and despatch. A corps of workers in the new library unpacked and placed the books in their proper order on the shelves as fast as received. The work of moving the books was not rushed; on the contrary it was delayed by the necessity of transferring and putting in place shelving for 125,000 volumes in the stack-rooms beneath the main reading-room of the new library and the reading-room of the Law Library. The Law Library was moved, arranged, and ready for use on the opening of the university.

The regular work of the library staff went on at the old site up to the last moment. During the summer more than 100,000 serials and pamphlets were assorted and arranged, and several thousand were bound singly and in volumes. A careful and complete inventory of the whole library was also made by reading the shelves by the shelf lists. The work of removal was accomplished without confusion, and on Oct. 12 the library was opened for the delivery of books in its new home.

The main reading-room, 92.5 ft. in diameter, and rising 106 feet to the centre of the dome, is splendidly lighted by four huge clerestory windows. Bookcases around the sides between the granite columns, in the corners and in the centre, will hold 12,000 vols. A stack-room beneath and directly accessible will contain 150,000 vols. In the second story of the east and west wings are long rooms supplied with the improved Fenton steel stacks in the inner portion, while the outer space can be divided by large sliding-doors into nine special study rooms in each wing. These stacks have a capacity for 100,000 vols. each. The north wing contains the Law Library with a reading-room rising through the two stories, and a stack-room below with a capacity for 28,000 vols. The reading-room and the professor's office have 6000 vols. on the shelves. The first story of the east wing is given up to the Avery Architectural Library and is an ideal library room, finished in quartered oak, with every convenience for the use of that fine collection of books.

The galleries beneath the clerestory windows are also shelved and will hold about 16,000 vols. The classical special study rooms, adjoining the Avery reading-room on the north, will shelve 30,000 vols. The present shelving will accommodate about 450,000 vols., but as the growth of the university in new buildings relieves the necessity for using parts of the library building for other than library purposes, room for 600,000 vols. additional will be released with an increase of special study rooms as well.

The faculty of political science is now located on the top floor of the west wing of the building, and the faculty of philosophy in the east wing. The law lecture rooms are on the third floor of the north wing. The delivery-room is in the west wing just across the corridor from the main reading-room; adjoining are the periodical room and the library administration rooms. The dictionary card catalog of nearly 450,000 cards has been rearranged in 864 single drawers in the delivery-room, and is thus made accessible to a larger number of users. The librarian has a handsome and roomy office in the south end of the west wing.

At the right of the vestibule is the trustees' room, the walls of which are panelled in old English oak with a richly carved cornice; above this is the president's office, which is connected by a gallery across the vestibule with the office of his secretary; below the office of the latter and on the left of the main entrance is the office of the assistant secretary.

The upper part of the main reading-room is to be lighted in the evening on a novel plan. A wooden sphere seven feet in diameter and of a dull white color is suspended from the centre of the dome; from this will be reflected the light of eight powerful electric lights, hidden from view in the upper corners of the galleries, directed upon the sphere through lenses. The sphere will thus be illumined like an artificial moon, while the source of the light will not be apparent to the observer. C: ALEX. NELSON.

## THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

F. A. CRANDALL, Superintendent of Public Documents, was on Nov. 17 reduced by the Public Printer to the position of Librarian of the Document Office. Louis C. Ferrell, formerly secretary to Senator Cullom, was placed in charge of the department. Mr. Crandall was appointed to the office in March, 1895, and during his incumbency has developed or initiated improvements that have won the grateful recognition of librarians throughout the country. His deposition is regarded as a serious loss to government and library interests, and there has been prompt and general protest from librarians. The following memorial was signed by the depository libraries of New York and Brooklyn, and brought to the direct attention of the President and others interested:

"THE UNDERSIGNED, librarians of libraries which are public depositories of United States documents, or persons otherwise interested in the collection, preservation, and use of government documents at library centres where they may be accessible to the public, being conversant with the work of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Documents, created under the act of Jan. 12, 1895, as administered by Superintendent F. A. Crandall, unite in expressing their appreciation of the excellent work accomplished through that department, as organized by him, its first superintendent, and their desire that the efficiency of the bureau should be maintained by his retention in its executive management.

"They respectfully submit that the wealth of information concealed hitherto in government publications, on which millions of dollars are expended annually, has never before been made so accessible to all who have reason to seek such information as under the systematic methods of handling, distributing, cataloging, and indexing, which Mr. Crandall has adopted or initiated, and while they recognize that such a bureau cannot be maintained without direct and considerable expense they suggest that the economy in the production and utilization of government publications brought about by the methods adopted by Mr. Crandall and likely to be brought about still more in the future by the development of those methods, will save to the government sums greatly in excess of this direct expenditure, while making government issues of use many times beyond the people they have hitherto reached.

"They also unite in suggesting that this Office, dealing with the preservation and distribution of books, should find its proper relations in the Library of Congress, rather than in the Government Printing Office, especially in view of the fact that the new accommodations of the national library now give ample room for the massing and handling of government documents.

"*Signed:* JOHN S. BILLINGS, Director, New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.
R. R. BOWKER, Editor, LIBRARY JOURNAL, Chairman of Public Documents Committee, Am. Lib'y Ass'n.
ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, Chief Librarian, New York Free Circulating Library.
SILAS H. BERRY, Librarian, Y. M. C. A., New York.
GEO. H. BAKER, Librarian, Columbia University Library.
W. T. PEOPLES, Librarian, Mercantile Library, New York.
L. C. L. JORDAN, Asst. Sec'y, Cooper Union, New York.
CHAS. G. HUBERMANN, Librarian, College of the City of New York.
WALTER T. STEPHENSON, Librarian, Reform Club, New York.
MARY W. PLUMMER, Director, Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn.
IRENE A. HACKETT, Librarian, Y. M. C. A., Brooklyn.
WILLIS A. BARDWELL, Librarian, Brooklyn Library, Brooklyn."

## DETERIORATION OF PAPER.

THE council of the Society of Arts, London, has appointed a committee to investigate the causes of the deterioration of paper. For the purpose of obtaining information the committee has sent out the following circular letter, which was also published in the society's *Journal* of Sept. 3:

"It has been brought to the notice of the council of the Society of Arts that many books of an important character are now printed on paper of a very perishable nature, so that there is considerable risk of the deterioration and even destruction of such books within a limited space of time. This is believed to be especially true of books which are in constant use for purposes of reference, and are therefore liable to much handling.

"Although a great deal of investigation has been made into the subject in Germany, the matter appears to have attracted but little attention in this country. The council, therefore, readily acceded to a proposal made to them, and appointed a committee to inquire into and report upon the whole subject.

"This committee would feel very much indebted to you if you would tell them whether you have noticed any instances of books, published within the last 30 years, which already show signs of perishing, especially in the case of books which have been much used.

"They will also feel much obliged if you will favor them with any other information which you think might assist the committee, or with any suggestions which your experience might lead you to make.

"HENRY TRUEMAN WOOD, *Secretary*."

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## THE MENASHA (WIS.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ON Nov. 21, 1895, at the request of Miss Lucy Lee Pleasants, a number of the leading citizens of Menasha (Wis.) assembled in the parlors of the principal hotel to declare their willingness to promote the establishment of a free public library. Here the scheme would probably have perished in its infancy if Mr. E. D. Smith, a prominent manufacturer, had not offered to head a subscription list with $500 if $1000 could be raised from other sources. Several men and women agreed to solicit the money and so the enterprise was launched.

Some dark days of discouragement succeeded this first outburst of enthusiasm. Mr. Hutchins, of the state library commission, visited the community with words of counsel and encouragement; but it seemed a far cry to a thousand dollars and the spirits of the projectors had sunk to a low ebb indeed, when an old citizen came forward and said that two of his daughters had married men who could not read, and that because he wanted to help the cause in some way he would like to make the shelves for the future public library.

After this things seemed to get brighter, the subscription list began to grow "like a garden full of snow," as the nursery rhyme has it, and a request was soon sent off to the officers of the library commission for a list of wholesome, popular books. A firm of lumber dealers gave the shelving, a small boy who had learned to print made the borrowers' cards, a poor woman scrubbed the floor as her offering, and as many ladies as the two little rooms could hold came to paste in the book-pockets and to cut the leaves. The library commission sent an experienced cataloger to put things to rights, as its donation, and the library was then opened to the public, with Miss Pleasants in charge.

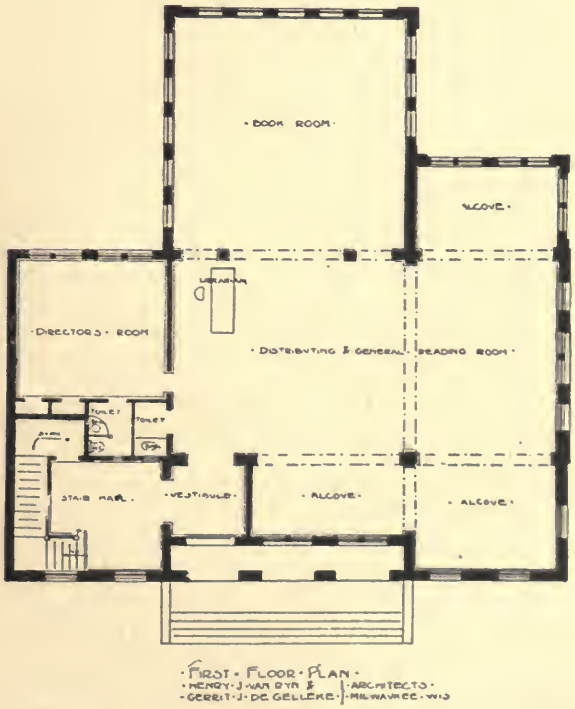
Each succeeding day found the two small rooms crowded with patrons. German books were purchased for the older German folk and a list of Polish books was made out by the Polish priest for the aged ones of his little flock. Knowledge of the existence of the library spread among the poor like fire in dry grass. Women came in twos and threes, with woollen mufflers over their heads; men, grimy with work, scarcely waited to take their black pipes out of their mouths before they stumbled up the library stairs; while children, when the supply of young folks' literature was temporarily exhausted, hung about the doors all Saturday afternoons, in the hope of getting a book that some one else came to return.

When the people were asked to support the library with a tax the measure was carried by a rousing majority, despite the hard times. Then Mr. E. D. Smith, who had only been waiting to see the library put on a firm basis, carried out his long-cherished project, and gave the city $25,000 for a library building and endowment fund.

It is the intention of Mr. Smith, the donor, Miss Pleasants, the librarian, and the board of directors of the library to make this library, at the suggestion of the library commission, the centre of educational activity for the city and county. The second floor of the library will contain an auditorium, seating 600, which may be divided, when necessary, into smaller rooms or study clubs, etc. Here series of popular lectures will be given. It is also the intention of the board of directors to take advantage of the new library law, which enables a library board to make contracts with the boards of supervisors of neighboring townships, at a nominal sum, by which books may be loaned to the farmers and other residents in the surrounding towns. With the completion of the new building Mr. Smith will also establish a system of travelling libraries in the district, with the Menasha library as its centre.

The new library building, as shown in the accompanying cuts, will be 40 x 70 ft., two stories high, with a 30 x 30 one-story book-room. The cost will be about $15,000. The first story will contain the book-room, directors' room, toilet-rooms, general reading-room, with alcoves for newspapers, magazines, and children's tables; all of the alcoves, book-room, and vestibule being under observation from the librarian's desk, and making it possible to carry on the work of the library with one attendant.

ELISHA D. SMITH LIBRARY, MENASHA, WIS.




GROUND PLAN, ELISHA D. SMITH LIBRARY, MENASHA, WIS.

In the basement will be placed the heating plant, bicycle-room, and toilet-rooms. The approach to the building is by means of wide stone steps leading up to an arcade of three arches in the centre of the building. An Ionic colonnade of seven bays has been used in the second story. The entire exterior will be of buff Bedford limestone and the roof of tile.

The structure will occupy a corner lot overlooking the river, and is in a location so central that it is hoped that many people will be beguiled from the bustling traffic of the highway into the pleasant bypaths of learning.

L. E. S.

## TRAVELLING LIBRARIES IN DUNN CO., WISCONSIN.

One of the most inspiring of library meetings yet held in Wisconsin, and one which gave the greatest promise of future good, was held in Menomonie, Wis., Nov. 6. This meeting was the third institute of the librarians of the Stout Free Travelling Libraries, and was held in the beautiful club-rooms of the Menomonie Library. The design of the meeting was to bring together the people who have charge of the travelling libraries in each district, for the purpose of increasing their interest and encouraging their work.

These amateur librarians are farmers and farmers' wives, village postmasters and country school-teachers who assume the responsibility, and take charge of the circulation of the travelling library. Their library services are gratuitous, and necessarily subordinate to other duties, so that one could scarcely have expected many of them to be present at such a meeting and to devote a whole day to the consideration of library and educational work. But in spite of the fact that their labor is gratuitous, perhaps because of it, they have not escaped the enthusiasm which library work ought to inspire — an enthusiasm which, in this case, brought them in over rough roads from a distance of from 10 to 40 miles. There were 50 or 60 people present, representing at least 20 different communities of the county, and it meant sincere appreciation of their opportunity and an eager desire to make the most of it, that this class of people could have been brought together for such a purpose from such a distance.

Miss Stearns and Mr. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, were in charge of the meeting, and in their own inimitable way made the people feel the importance of the work they were doing, gave them suggestions for making the books still more helpful, and told them how to form study clubs and home circles.

All of the speeches during the day were on practical topics, on work that had been or was going to be accomplished.

A paper on "Travelling pictures" was very interesting, and was made even more so by the fact that Senator Stout had purchased 800 beautiful pictures, original photographs of masterpieces, and intends circulating them throughout the county on the travelling library plan. All of these pictures have been framed and will be hung in the school-rooms, and in addition each school-house will have, as a permanent loan, a fine large picture of Lincoln.

Senator Stout has put into circulation about 35 travelling libraries, and it was reported that the circulation of 15 of them had reached 5588 v. during the past year, and this among families who live from a half mile to a mile apart. Figures, perhaps, do not express the value of a cause, but these figures, together with the true altruistic zeal displayed at that meeting, do prove beyond doubt the value of Senator Stout's benevolence. No librarian ever doubted it, but legislators sometimes have.

Wisconsin has already earned a national reputation in library work, but no one can appreciate the real pioneer work which is being done there until they see it face to face.

Gratia Countryman.

## A GIFT TO THE PHILADELPHIA FREE LIBRARY.

At a dinner given on the evening of Nov. 24 by P. A. B. Widener to about 20 intimate, personal and business associates, all men of prominence in Philadelphia, the formal announcement was made by Dr. William Pepper of Mr. Widener's intention to present to the Free Library of Philadelphia his handsome residence on Broad street and Girard avenue. The building is to held in trust forever by the city as an intregal part of the free library system, and is to be known as the Josephine Widener Memorial Branch, in memory of the dead wife of the giver. Dr. Pepper said that Mr. and Mrs. Widener, before the latter's death, had carefully considered the matter of giving aid to various institutions, and it had been resolved that the greatest good to the community would be done by the development of a system to include a free art gallery, free museum of science and art, and a free library. In furtherance of those ideas Mr. Widener intended to bequeath to the city his splendid art collection on condition that a suitable fire-proof art gallery shall be constructed in a central location in the city, and that it shall at all times be free to the public. Regarding a free museum, Dr. Pepper said that four contributions of $30,000 each have been made toward the construction of a museum building by Mr. Widener, W. L. Elkins, Edwin H. Fitler, and Daniel Baugh. This building will be erected on a tract of land in West Philadelphia, given by the city in trust to the University of Pennsylvania for the creation of a park and free museum of science and art.

The value of the house thus given by Mr. Widener is estimated at $600,000, and in addition the giver intends to equip the art gallery of the residence with a collection of American paintings costing $400,000, thus bringing his total gift up to $1,000,000. This magnificent gift is said to be the first result of the passage of the loan bill, by which $1,000,000 is to be appropriated for a central library building.

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The colon after an initial of a given name means that is the most common name beginning with that initial, *e.g.*, A: means Augustus; B: Benjamin; C: Charles; D: David; E: Edward; F: Frederick; G: George; H: Henry; I: Isaac; J: John; K: Karl; L: Louis; M: Mark; N: Nicholas; O: Otto; P: Peter; R: Richard; S: Samuel; T: Thomas; V: Victor; W: William.

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## THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL WINDOW.

THE circular regarding the memorial window in Shakespeare's church, to which Dr. Steiner alludes, in his communication printed elsewhere, is as follows:

TO AMERICAN VISITORS.

Your attention is respectfully directed to the Memorial Window in the South Transept. It is being filled with stained glass by the kind gifts of those who come here from the United States.

The design is to represent America and England united in the Worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He is shown in the center, in His Mother's arms.

On the right hand side are figures of Americans, on the left of Britons.

Chief among the latter is Archbishop Laud, who first proposed sending a Bishop to America.

Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci, and William Penn are opposite, with a picture of the Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers.

When sufficient money has been obtained there will also be a figure of Bishop Seabury, and a picture of his Consecration.

The legend below will be, when complete, "A.M.D.G. The gift of America to Shakespeare's Church"

*Your assistance is invited in carrying this out.*

GEORGE ARBUTHNOT, *Vicar.*

## American Library Association.

*President (Acting):* R. P. Hayes, State Library, Columbus, O.

*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

*INVITATION FROM THE SOCIÉTÉ BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE.*

THE Société Bibliographique, of Paris, which will hold its third international conference in the spring of 1898, as announced elsewhere (p. 765), has sent a formal invitation, addressed to the president of the American Library Association, requesting the association to "partake of this meeting and give an account of its activity during the last 10 years." The invitation is sent through the general secretary, M. E. G. Ledos, who states that "papers on particular subjects may also be presented by the members of the congress."

## State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohier, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

"FREE travelling libraries in Wisconsin," is the title of a pamphlet just issued by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, in which a part of the work accomplished in the state during the past two years by means of the travelling library system is described by the officers of the commission and others interested in its work. We say "a part" advisedly, for it would be difficult to convey a full realization of what has been accomplished in this direction in the scattered frontier communities throughout Wisconsin. Mr. Hutchins, secretary of the commission, summarizes the events leading to the establishment of the first series of travelling libraries in the spring of 1896, through the generosity of Senator J. H. Stout, of Menomonie. The Stout travelling libraries numbered 16, comprising in all 500 v., when they started upon their journeys in May, 1896; at the end of the year there were 37, and of these 34 were in constant use. The success of the work was assured from the beginning; more children's books were added to the collections, illustrated periodicals and magazines, given in abundance by well-wishers, were sent out with the libraries and retained for constant use at the library stations, and the beginnings were laid of many small local libraries. In other sections of the state the same work has been prosecuted with similar results; Mr. J. D. Witter, of Grand Rapids, followed Senator Stout's example for Wood county; the Northern Wisconsin Travelling Library Association has done likewise for the counties bordering on Lake Superior; from Chippewa Falls travelling libraries have gone out through Chippewa county; in Lincoln county, W. H. Bradley, a lumber-mill owner of Tomahawk, has established a system of these libraries for mill-workers and farmers; from the Stevens Point Normal School travelling libraries and travelling pictures have gone out through Portage county; while through all these activities the officers of the state commission have been a guiding force.

Mr. Hutchins' paper is a "library tract" in the best sense of the word. The views of the forlorn hamlets and "cross-road" stores which are library stations, the many incidents, amusing and pathetic, of the results effected by these books, and the glimpses given of the great field open to the library missionary, are full of interest and of inspiration. Sample lists of the books selected are given, the Maxson book-mark is shown, and the rules and salient points of the administrative methods followed are summarized. In addition to Mr. Hutchins' paper there are short articles on "Children's home libraries" and "Railroad travelling libraries," by Miss L. E. Stearns, the latter being based

on Mr. Ranck's interesting paper on the subject in the JOURNAL; a paper on "Travelling libraries and women's clubs," by Mrs. Charles S. Morris; and an account of the "Travelling pictures in Portage county," by Miss Mary E. Tanner. There can be little doubt that the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, in the preparation and publication of this pamphlet, has not only advanced the library interests of its own state, but has materially aided the cause of travelling libraries throughout the country.

## State Library Associations.

*LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.*

*President:* J. C. Rowell, University of California, Berkeley.

*Secretary:* A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

*Treasurer:* A. J. Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco.

THE regular meeting of the Library Association of Central California was held Nov. 12, in the Wells-Fargo Library of San Francisco, President Rowell in the chair.

On the meeting coming to order Mr. Teggart, after paying a glowing tribute to the late Justin Winsor, introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Library Association of Central California expresses its deep sorrow and sincere regret at the loss, to the library profession, of Mr. Justin Winsor, late librarian of Harvard University."

Mr. J. B. Stovall, librarian of the Wells-Fargo Library, was then introduced, and gave a brief but interesting history of this unique association. It was organized August, 1890, with 60 members, all employes of the company. At first only magazines were circulated, but the success was so great that books were added, the result of seven years' growth being a well-equipped library of 2700 volumes, including a small but useful reference library, and a subscription list of 70 periodicals, of which from one to 20 copies each are taken. This promising nucleus of a good working library is housed in comfortable rooms, furnished by the company, and is supplied with newspapers and all the conveniences that go to make an attractive reading-room. In January, 1893, the membership was extended to include outside agents, and a system of travelling libraries was inaugurated. Boxes are provided that will hold two books and a periodical, or the equivalent, one side of the lid carrying the name and address of the agent, the reverse side that of the library. These boxes are sent, carriage free both ways, to agents throughout the Pacific coast system, the present monthly circulation by this plan being 900. The subscription rate is 25 cents monthly, payable in advance, this rate making the library almost self-supporting, although the company, in addition to supplying a room for the library, clears off any outstanding bills, considering this donation in the light of a good investment. The success of this library has been the means of opening a reading-room in the company's office in the city of Mexico, a library in Kansas City, and one in Jersey City, each under their friendly auspices.

The question of a "Pacific coast copyright depository" was presented by Mr. F. J. Teggart, who gave a sketch of the origin of copyright. He was followed by Mr. H. C. Nash, who, in closing, offered this resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That this association deems the establishment of additional copyright depositories in the United States a matter of the highest importance to all interested in the spread of knowledge and culture; therefore it is

"*Resolved*, That our representatives in Congress be requested to use their best endeavors to obtain the establishment of such additional depositories, and especially of a depository on the Pacific coast."

A committee was appointed to bring the matter to the attention of the California delegation to Congress.

Mr. C. K. Jones read a paper on "Calderon and his times," giving a vigorous yet sympathetic study of this great dramatist, and a careful summary of the social, political, and literary conditions of the 16th and 17th centuries, showing, by his treatment, an intimate knowledge of the subject.

President Rowell announced that the December meeting would be a Library Round Table, in which the association would be joined by the California State Teachers' Association.

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary.*

*CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

*COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

AT the November meeting of the Colorado Library Association held in the high school on Friday evening, Nov. 12, the officers of the previous year were re-elected.

Miss Grace Espey Patton, state superintendent of public instruction, spoke on "Libraries and their work in Colorado," and Mr. J. F. Daniels gave an illustrated talk on "Schoolroom decoration." H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary.*

*GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

*Treasurer:* Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

*ILLINOIS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Col. J. W. Thompson, Public Library, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Ange V. Milner, State Normal College, Normal.
*Treasurer:* P. F. Bicknell, University of Illinois, Champaign.

*INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss Elizabeth D. Swan, Purdue University, Lafayette.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison st., Chicago, Ill.

*IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

*MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.
*Treasurer:* Prof. G: T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Miss Alice G. Chandler, Town Library, Lancaster.
*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Boston.
*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

*MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* H: M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.
*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.
*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

*MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. W: W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.
*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.
*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Jones, State University, Lincoln.
*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

THE Nebraska Library Association will hold its third annual meeting in Lincoln in the latter part of December, in connection with the state teachers' association. At that meeting President Jillson, of the association, will present a plan for a general conference of librarians, to be held in connection with the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha next year.

*NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.
*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.
*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

*NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* F. P. Hill, Public Library, Newark.
*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winser, Public Library, Newark.
*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

*NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.
*Secretary:* W: R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.
*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

*OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Frank Conover, Public Library, Dayton.
*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.
*Treasurer:* Martin Hensel, Public School Library, Columbus.

THE third annual session of the Ohio Library Association took place at Cincinnati, Oct. 27 and 28, the meetings being held in the Grand Hotel and at the pleasant and commodious hall of the Public Library, which had been put at the disposal of the association by the board of directors of the library. There were 68 members and friends from various parts of the state in attendance. A notable and gratifying feature of the meeting was the large proportion (about one-seventh) of library trustees present.

The two days were pleasantly varied with business and pleasure. The papers presented were vigorous and to the point of local library experiences; discussion was prompt and spirited. The address of the president, Dr. A. W. Whelpley, upon the "Early literary history of Cincinnati," following upon the first half-day of visiting, and closing with a brief outline of the ways in which libraries and museums may foster the growth of art and literature in a community, was a fitting introduction to the program which followed during the next day and a half.

In his paper upon the "Ohio Library Commission," Mr. Rutherford P. Hayes outlined the growth of the library demand in Ohio, and traced its crystallization by statute from the beginning of the Ohio school library law in 1853 to the present time. He summarized briefly recent legislation in other states, noted the fact of funds having been appropriated for carrying forward the work of the several library commissions, and stated what had been accomplished during the past year by the Ohio Library Commission, which had been obliged to work without any such convenient provision. The state library had been made a free lending library to any and every citizen of Ohio; 56 travelling libraries had been sent out in the course of the year; a check list of Ohio documents had been made and an effort to arrange and reclaim from the dust of ages the moulding piles of newspapers and other state publications had been successful. He urged librarians to publish to the village and farming communities of their vicinity the privileges in respect to the travelling libraries extended by the state library. He pointed out the necessity for a

liberal appropriation to keep up these libraries and to increase their efficiency, and also made recommendations for a uniform library law to apply to cities of 30,000 inhabitants and over, whereby they should be required to establish free libraries and place them under the control of a non-partisan board of directors.

On the evening of the 27th a public meeting was held at Library Hall for librarians, library trustees and teachers. A number of pleasant addresses from prominent Cincinnati people, Dr. Dan Millikin, Mr. James A. Green, Rev. G. A. Thayer, and others, gave to the visiting librarians a further insight into the cordial spirit and hospitable attitude of the city toward library work.

The College Section under the direction of Mr. A. S. Root, assisted by Miss Olive Jones and Mr. Charles Orr, conducted a most interesting discussion of the merits of the best 10 reference-books for a college library in the several classes of literature. The program for the afternoon session of the 28th was divided so as to bring the papers of Miss Eastman upon "Library extension in Ohio," and that of Miss Doren upon "The relation of library training to library organization," in the evening. Both of these papers were written with a view to opening general discussion upon the lines of action suggested in them, but for lack of time this was not done. This was also the case of the admirable papers which preceded them, that of Miss Margaret G. Pierce upon "Library advertising," Miss Augusta L. Mills' paper upon "Some needs of the library worker," and Miss Hattie M. Toler's upon "Library training for the public." Miss Pierce's paper was illustrated by a fine exhibit of the attractive and original means by which the attention of the Cleveland library patrons is won for the best books. It is a notable fact that the circulation of this library shows an increase of over 200,000 volumes over the preceding year. The increase of that year over its predecessor was 1000!

Miss Eliza Gordon Browning, of the Indianapolis Public Library, having been invited to speak upon "The conduct of a small library," was listened to with great interest. After touching briefly upon the printed information at the command of the new librarian in the numerous handbooks, in the library journals, and in the reports of the A. L. A. conferences, she launched into the practical aspects of the daily routine in a library of 5000 volumes, with an income of $1000 for all expenses, including librarian's salary, new books, etc. She pointed out the necessity at the outset of a scheme of organization upon principles which should be broad enough and elastic enough to admit of the library's growth in the future, to prevent the waste of doing over again the whole thing, or of seriously handicapping the future librarian in the despatch of business. She advised free access to shelves and gave many valuable hints upon charging systems, binding and preservation of books, bookbuying, library rules, and the tactful management of the public, closing with a sentence which will go to the hearts of those librarians once at the head of small libraries now no longer such. She says: "You of the smaller libraries have an opportunity for a good work that the larger libraries can never hope to accomplish, because what you can do with personal contact with every one of your patrons they must seek to do by means of information desks and lists. You can more nearly approach the ideal librarianship, because it is within the bounds of possibility *for you* to actually come into daily contact with your people and with their wants and needs."

The entertainment provided for the members of the association was as varied as it was delightful. The first morning of their arrival was spent in visiting the libraries, the art museum, and the famous Rookwood Pottery. On the second afternoon a three-hour trolley ride over the hill-tops gave them an unusually fine view of the city in the glories of a true Indian summer, and in the evening following the last business session was the pleasant reception tendered them by Dr. and Mrs. Whelpley at their beautiful home in Clifton.

The place of the next annual meeting has been fixed for Dayton, O. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Frank Conover, trustee Public Library, Dayton; Vice-presidents, Mrs. Frances D. Jermain, Toledo Public Library; Miss Julia Hitchcock, Youngstown, Miss May Lowe, Public Library, Circleville; Secretary, Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland, Treasurer, Martin Hensel, Public School Library, Columbus; Executive member, A. W. Whelpley, Ph.D., Public Library, Cincinnati.

The greetings of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs, which has recently adopted as one of its objects the promotion and establishment of public libraries, and which was then in session at Piqua, were cordially returned. A memorial to the late J. H. Spielman, librarian of the Public School Library of Columbus, was presented by Miss Hattie Toler; resolutions of respect to the character and distinguished services of the late Justin Winsor were read; and a vote of sympathy was extended to Mr. W. H. Brett, whose absence on account of affliction in his family was deeply regretted.

ELECTRA C. DOREN, *Secretary.*

*PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Girls' Normal School, Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Helen G. Sheldon, Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

*WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

THE fall meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Library Club was held at the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Thursday evening, Nov. 11. The executive committee of the club were so fortunate as to be able to arrange for a lecture by Mr. George H. Putnam on that evening

and for this reason it was thought best to make the meeting an open one, and no business was conducted. Mr. Putnam's subject was "The rise and growth of the property right in books." There was a good attendance, both of club members and outsiders, and the lecture was much enjoyed.

ELIZABETH B. WALES. *Secretary.*

*VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

*WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

*NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.*

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Librarian and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

## Library Clubs.

*CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, *Public Libraries*, 215 Madison street.

THE November meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held at the Hammond Library, Chicago Theological Seminary, on Thursday, Nov. 4. After a brief inspection of the library, the meeting was called to order at 8.25 by Pres. Hopkins. The president announced that the executive committee had appointed C. B. Roden secretary of the club in place of Miss Margaret Mann, resigned. The minutes of the two previous meetings of the club year, namely, March and October, having not yet been approved, were ordered read, and were thereupon accepted. On the call of committees it was found that the chairman of the committee on editing union list of periodicals was not present, and the report of that committee was deferred until later in the evening. The committee on ways and means for union list was passed, as none of its members was in attendance. The president reported the appointment of a committee on permanent headquarters, composed of Messrs. Meleney, Hild, and Sudduth. Mr. Sudduth being called upon for a report from that committee, stated that no meeting had as yet been held, and there was no report. The following persons were elected to membership in the club: W. F. Cooper, Hervey White, Miss M. E. Swarts, and Miss Alice Randall.

W. W. Bishop, of Garrett Biblical Institute, read the first paper of the evening, his subject being "The problem of classifying the library of a theological school." Mr. Bishop pointed out the shortcomings of both the Dewey and Cutter systems in the division of theology, illustrating his remarks by many examples from his experience in the library under his care. A discussion of the paper followed, in which Messrs. Martel, Merrill, Wire, and Gates took part. Dr. G. E. Wire then read a short paper on "Cataloging the Deering collection of mss. at Garrett Biblical Institute," in which were included many valuable hints on the care of letters and mss. in general. The program was closed by Mr. H. Gates, librarian of the Hammond Library, who gave a sketch of the history, development, and growth of the library, and added a graceful welcome to the club. At the conclusion of the program the report of the committee on editing union list was called up, and Mr. C. W. Andrews, chairman, stated that it gave him great pleasure to be able to report the practical completion of all preliminaries. Fifteen libraries had sent in their lists, and the actual work of compilation could begin at once. The committee intended to call for volunteers to do this work very soon; perhaps within a week, certainly within the month. The report was accepted. There being no further business, the meeting then adjourned.

C. B. RODEN, *Secretary.*

THE December meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held at the Chicago Academy of Sciences, on Thursday evening, Dec. 2, Pres. A. H. Hopkins in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and, with a slight correction, approved. The secretary reported a recommendation from the executive committee for the appointment of a committee by the club to co-operate with the Illinois State Library Association in its project of compiling statistics of the libraries of the state, and read a communication from Mr. A. G. S. Josephson, advocating such action. Col. J. W. Thompson, president of the Illinois State Library Association, speaking in support of the plan, said that he was glad to hear the recommendation; that he had received several letters from different parts of the state inquiring as to the position of the Chicago libraries in the matter, and that this club, being the leading organization in the state, was taking the right step in preparing to collect the statistics for the city, and, possibly, for Cook county. Mr. Bishop moved that the chair be authorized to appoint a committee, of such number as seemed to him most desirable, to compile a table of statistics of the libraries of Cook county. After remarks by Mr. Bishop and the president, the motion was carried.

C. W. Andrews, chairmain of the committee on editing union list of periodicals, reported that that committee had held two meetings, but that there had not been a full attendance at either of them, and therefore he was at present unwilling to make a definitive statement as to numerous details under consideration. The forms to be used in compiling the list were in the hands of the printer, and the actual work could begin as soon as these slips were ready.

He suggested that the club appropriate the sum of $30 to cover the cost of cutting and pasting the Boston periodical list, which it was intended to use as a basis, stating that a great expenditure of time and labor would be avoided by having this work done by other hands. After several questions from members, and some further explanations from Mr. Andrews, it was voted to appropriate a sum not exceeding $30, for the purpose suggested.

Mr. Bishop presented for distribution a number of copies of a periodical, and a circular relating to Lakewood and Jamestown, N. Y., of interest in connection with the next conference of the American Library Association.

The following were elected to membership: Zella F. Adams, Elizabeth Porter Clarke, Eleanor Warwick, C. R. Hastings.

The first paper of the evening's program was read by Miss M. E. Ahern on the "Post-conference trip of the A. L. A. in England." Miss Ahern gave an entertaining outline of the journey, filling in with brief accounts of various points of interest visited, and illuminating her narrative with many anecdotes and apt illustrations. Mr. Andrews followed with an address on some recent plans for co-operative bibliography. The speaker detailed the projects and proceedings of the Brussels conference, dwelt upon the schemes of the Royal Society in London, and finally set forth the plan of those five libraries of the United States that have undertaken to analyze the publications of certain learned societies, and to furnish these entries in quantities for general distribution.

At the conclusion of the program a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. F. C. Baker and others in authority in the Chicago Academy of Sciences, for the courteous welcome extended to the club. C. B. RODEN, *Secretary.*

### *MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.*

"A little work, a little play
To keep us going — and so, good-day!"

### *NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.*

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* T: W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

THE second meeting of the season, 1897–98, was held at the New York Free Circulating Library, Jackson Square Branch, 251 West 13th street, New York, on Thursday, Nov. 11.

Dr. John S. Billings, director of the New York Public Library, opened what proved to be and interesting and lively discussion on "The disinfection of books." Speaking of the various methods employed in disinfection, Dr. Billings said that in dealing with books neither dry heat nor moist or steam heat, both efficacious to a degree, could for obvious reasons be used; the tendency being to curl the leaves and warp and crack the covers — in short, to spoil the book. For similar reasons some chemicals could not be resorted to, they often offering additional objection in imparting unpleasant and pungent odors. Sulphur, which used to be the great disinfectant, will not, Dr. Billings said, destroy quite a number of bacteria. Burning sulphur is still used as a disinfectant, but it is injurious to both color and fabric. After touching on the nature of many diseases due to the working of the bacilli, Dr. Billings continued in an explanation of various experiments made under his direction two years ago in an effort to find a perfect disinfectant for books, the use of which would not bring in its train a contra account for loss and repairs. The desired object was attained in the use of formaldehyde, which Dr. Billings declared to be perfect in its working to destroy germs of any and all diseases. The *modus operandi*, briefly stated, consists in placing the volumes to be treated in an air-tight chamber; a quantity of formaldehyde is then poured into a vessel, which in turn is placed over a lamp in with the books. The chemical volatilizes at a temperature of 210° F., and, properly applied at or above that temperature, will do all that is desired in about 15 minutes.*

In reply to interrogations Dr. Billings said that the Ohio Board of Health had found six cases of scarlet fever traceable to the use of books from a circulating library; but he, presonally, knew of but one case. There is no evidence that any other diseases had been contracted in the use of books. To a question touching catalog cards Dr. Billings said that, although they were just as likely to be the means of communicating disease, he thought there was practically no danger; they could be readily disinfected as suggested if it were thought desirable.

The discussion ended, Dr. Billings exhibited the sketch-plans of the proposed building for the New York Public Library, and explained in detail all the features which are to make up the finest and best equipped library building of its kind in the country. Instancing some of the salient points — the lending department, periodicals, delivering, packing, etc., will be on the lower floor as being most convenient of access. Special collections, such as Americana, Bibles, Shakespeariana, Miltoniana, Waltoniana, etc., in which the Lenox Library is very rich, will find a permanent home on the second floor; the main reading-room will be on the third floor, where also will be found the picture gallery, prints, mss., and other collections. Provision is made for a library for the blind, a photograph gallery, and a restaurant. There will also be a room for children. The building is to cost $2,500,000, and is, as is well known, to be erected at Forty-second street and Fifth avenue. THOMAS W. IDLE, *Secretary.*

### *LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.*

*President:* W. P. Cutter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

THE 26th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the

* For an account of the processes and results of the experiments with formalin, *see* L. J., August, 1897, p. 388.

Columbian University, Nov. 24, 1897. About 65 members and visitors were present. In the absence of President W. P. Cutter, Mr. Theodore Cole presided. The following persons were elected to membership: Hon. John Russell Young, Librarian of Congress, Dr. Charles E. Munroe, dean of the Corcoran Scientific School, Rev. A. H. Ames, Miss Eva Lawton, assistant cataloger Library of Congress, and Mr. Frank A. Birgfeld, of the National Museum.

The death of Mr. David Fitzgerald, librarian of the War Department and a member of the association, was announced, and short biographical notices which had been prepared by Gen. A. W. Greely and Mr. J. W. Cheney were read. A committee was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions.

Mr. Thorvald Solberg, Register of Copyrights, read an interesting and instructive paper, entitled "Impressions of European libraries." Mr. Solberg visited between the years 1887 and 1896 the most prominent libraries in Great Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Scandinavia, and Holland, and it is hoped that this paper will prove to be only the first of series, as the time was too limited to give more than the names of many of the libraries. F. H. PARSONS, *Secretary*.

*TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB (MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL).*

*President:* Mrs. L. B. Reed, Public Library, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Lettie M. Crafts, University of Minnesota Library, Minneapolis.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

*NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

THE following bibliography and thesis subjects have been chosen by the senior class.

The character of this work is strengthening every year. The active co-operation of librarians and other educators is needed for the best results. The bibliography on "Study and teaching of history" is prepared by request of the Committee of Seven on the study of history in schools, a committee of the American Historical Association. All bibliographies and reading likely to be of general interest and value will be issued in the bibliographic series of New York State Library bulletins. Numbers 2, 3, and 4 of this series were characterized by the LIBRARY JOURNAL (Aug., 1897) as careful and painstaking work.

BIBLIOGRAPHY SUBJECTS.

Biography of musicians. In English. A. L. Bailey.
Photography, 1880–date. E. A. Brown.
Hereditary patriotic societies of the U. S. W: B. Cook, Jr.
New York history before the revolution. C: A. Flagg and J. T. Jennings.
Single tax. Ethel Garvin.
Illustrative material for nature study in primary schools. (Select.) C. W. Hunt.
History of the 16th century. (Reading list.) O. M. Imhoff.
Russia. (Reading list.) A. L. Morse.
The Adirondacks. C. A. Sherrill.
College libraries. Hugh Williams.
Robert Louis Stevenson. E. S. Wilson.
Study and teaching of history in elementary and secondary schools. J. I. Wyer.

THESIS SUBJECTS.

Laws governing selection of books, illustrating by "Quo vadis." A. L. Bailey.
Children's reading. E. A. Brown.
Some new phases of library extension. W: B. Cook, Jr.
Duplicates. C. A. Flagg.
Comparison of library schools and training classes. Ethel Garvin.
Ethical influence of nature books on children under 10. C. W. Hunt.
What a librarian can do for his assistants. O. M. Imhoff.
Publishers. A. L. Morse.
Book annotation. C. A. Sherrill.
Principles governing selection of biography for public libraries. E. S. Wilson.
Library instruction in a college course. Hugh Williams.
Some principles of book selection, illustrating by "Farthest north." J. I. Wyer.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

*PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.*

CLASS OF 1898.

THE school opened Oct. 4 with the following class:

Adams, Elsie, Brooklyn, N. Y.;
Buckman, Edith P., Brooklyn, N. Y., B.A., Barnard College;
Gooch, Harriet B., Louisville, Ky.;
Day, Sarah C., Hartford, Ct.;
Hassler, Harriot E., Meadville, Pa., Allegheny College;
Hinsdale, Louise G., Lakewood, N. J.;
Hopkins, Mrs. Annie K. G., Provincetown, Mass.;
Hutchinson, Susie A., Branford, Ct.;
McCarty, Harriet D., Pittsburgh, Pa., B.L., Pennsylvania College for Women:
Nutting, William W., Pelham, N. Y., Carleton College;
Parmele, Ella G., Chicago, Ill.;
Parker, Mary C., Elyria, O., Oberlin College;
Rankin, Julia T., Atlanta, Ga.;
Sanborn, Alice E., Newtown Centre, Mass.;
Smith, Spencer C., East Orange, N. J.;
Stevens, Elizabeth C., White Plains, N. Y., Ph.B., Wesleyan University;
Turner, Emily, Quincy, Ill.;
Wadhams, Lucy B., Goshen, Mass.;
Williams, Mary, Brookline, Mass., Mass. Institute of Technology.

The Graduates' Association of the library school gave a reception on the evening of Nov. 9 to the incoming class. All the classes of previous years were represented, and the social meeting proved very pleasant.

## Reviews.

MONROE, Will S. Bibliography of education. N. Y., D. Appleton & Co., 1897. 24 + 202 p. (International education ser., no. 42.) D.

This is perhaps one of the most useful contributions to bibliography made this year, and its value to librarians is hardly less than its value to teachers. Based primarily upon the author's private pedagogical collection, it has been extended to embrace in all about 3200 books or pamphlets relating to the subject, and modelled to serve as a compact yet adequate guide in the ever-widening field of educational literature. The increase in this literature has been especially notable in recent years, and, as Mr. Monroe points out, there is a growing tendency to emphasize its importance in schools, colleges, and libraries. Of course, much of the most important educational literature is found in periodicals, but the great mass of this material prevented its inclusion in the present work. The bibliography, with the exception of works of reference, indicating sources of information, has also been limited to publications in the English language, but "as much care has been taken to secure the titles of British books as of American."

Books are classified under 22 different groups, each group having various divisions and subdivisions, and the bibliography proper being prefaced by a list of publishers with addresses, and supplemented by an author and subject index. The first group covers Works of reference, divided into (*a*) Bibliographies and (*b*) Cyclopædias, with further divisions for American and English and French and German books. Then follows History of education, including biography, divided by countries and by institutions or periods under subjects. Theory, Principles and practice, and Methods of education give further main classes, with many secondary divisions.

The main headings that follow show the broad lines of the subject; they cover School administration, Kindergarten, Education of colored children, Education of defective children, Professional education, Manual training, Philosophy, Psychology, Moral education, Physical education and school hygiene, Education of women, Self-culture and home education, School systems, Educational conferences and exhibits, American reports (national, state, and city), and Educational journals. The cross-references are infrequent and as no entries are repeated it often happens that a book appears under but one of several subjects to which it relates in almost equal proportion. The entries, though not in thoroughly bibliographical form, are compact, yet sufficiently full, giving paging, number of volumes, place, and date of publication, and publisher's name; there is some waste of space in the repetition of an author's name, and frequent typographical inconsistencies — as in such successive entries as "Augustine," "Augustine, St.," and "Augustine, Saint" — but these are minor points. Frequent and excellent annotations are given, and as a rule publications that are unobtainable and out of print have been wisely omitted. In the selection, annotation, and classification of the books listed, the author has had the help and suggestions of many educational specialists, and the results attained show the effect of careful and painstaking work. The classification, so far as it can be judged from a necessarily brief survey, seems to embody adequately a definite purpose, and to be well adapted for guidance in general or special pedagogical study. Now and then the lines seem too loosely drawn, as in the inclusion of several general series of educational books under Encyclopædias; and, as in all bibliographies, it is possible to point out sins of omission as well as faults of commission.

It will be seen that the arrangement of this bibliography, with its multiplied headings, subheadings, and minor divisions, makes the index the only available clue to the contents of the book, yet this index, full as it is, does not adequately meet the demands upon it. The first random test revealed several serious omissions, perhaps the most noticeable being the lack of any reference either to New York or Wisconsin, though the large educational literature which both of these states have evoked is entered under various headings, and the omission of the New England Primer, which appears only in class VI., School administration, under section 6, School-books. As an error of this sort means that the book omitted is practically buried, it will be seen that these defects are serious, and tend to awaken a lack of confidence in the thoroughness of the index that is, perhaps, hardly justified. The form of a classified catalog which the author has chosen is probably the best adapted for a work of this sort, but this bibliography emphasizes the importance of a thorough dictionary index to any classified list.

Dr. William T. Harris, editor of the series, contributes a short preface, in which he points out the special features of the book, and its value as a tool to librarians and to teachers, and Mr. Monroe, in a modest introduction, outlines its scope and characteristics. In putting this valuable material at the service of his fellow-workers the author has earned the gratitude of the educational public and of all workers in bibliography.

PEABODY INSTITUTE. Second catalogue of the Library of the Peabody Institute of the City of Baltimore; including the additions made since 1882. Parts 1: A–B; 2: C–D. Baltimore, 1896–97. 2 v. Q. [7] + 584 p.; [4] + 585–1186 p.

The first catalog of the Peabody Institute was frequently referred to in the L. J. as its several volumes were issued, especially in the reports on cataloging read at meetings of the A. L. A., and the consensus of opinion was unanimous as to its usefulness to librarians and to readers in libraries fortunate enough to possess copies. Mr. Noyes, compiler of the classed catalog of the Brooklyn Library, criticised it mainly because it was a dictionary catalog and open to

criticism from his point of view. But each volume was gladly welcomed, and by none more gladly than by those best qualified to appreciate the work involved in its production, the librarians and catalogers engaged in similar work.

For a long time it was expected that a single supplementary volume would cover the additions made to the library while the first catalog was printing; but here we have two volumes running to nearly 1200 pages covering only the letters A–D. The compilers have taken advantage of their own experience, as well as of the criticisms and suggestions made during the printing of the first catalog, and believe that this "may be found even more comprehensive and fuller in detail than the first, not only extending subjects already included in that but giving many others not found in it."

Contents of collected works are given under the name of the author and also under their respective subjects. It has to some seemed superfluous to repeat the entries in "Poole's index" and its continuations in a general library catalog, but this practice having been begun it has been continued, and now the entries are given under the authors as well as subjects. Analytical entries have been very freely made of books as well as of serial publications. All such special work, while costly to the maker, puts all who are benefited by it under lasting obligation, and adds very greatly to the capital of library workers everywhere.

On behalf of all such workers we beg to extend to the trustees and management of the Peabody Institute full appreciation of and hearty thanks for the liberal provision which has made the preparation and publication of a catalog so useful to the library world possible. C: A. N.

## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

BARRY, William. Forbidden books. (*In The Speaker*, Oct. 16, 1897. 16 : 429.)

The writer sees a connection between certain books and the increase in insanity. From a hygienic or biological point of view certain books are forbidden for certain people.

BRETT, W: H. The public library made useful. (*In Independent*, Nov. 18, 1897, 49:1486. 2 p.)

Describes the free library as a centre of the educational life of a community, and points out along what lines library development must be carried on to accomplish this result.

STEVENSON, W: M. Restriction of fiction in public libraries. (*In The Citizen*, Nov., 1897. 3 : 203.)

Mr. Stevenson concludes his paper as follows: "Free education has in this country become a fad. It was to cure all human ills. It was to change human nature. It has naturally failed to do all that was expected of it. The free library movement is a part of this fad, and it is found that it needs more than free libraries to reform the world. Free libraries will do much, and that they may do their best work it is necessary to effect an improvement in the reading they furnish the public."

### LOCAL.

*Asbury Park, N. J.* At a special meeting held in the city on Nov. 30 it was voted that a free public library be established under the state act. The measure was carried by two votes; the first ward, which is the business section of the city, cast 21 votes against it, while the second ward, which is the residence portion, gave 23 votes for it. An energetic library canvass was made by the women of the city.

*Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt F. L.* At a meeting of the trustees in October the issue of a second card to borrowers was authorized, beginning Nov. 1. This card, known as a "student's card," is colored lilac, may not be used for works of fiction or juveniles, and is issued practically to all persons who can draw "starred" books.

*Boston. Anna Ticknor L. Assoc.* The Society to Encourage Studies at Home, founded by Miss Anna Eliot Ticknor, and carried on for 20 years, has not lapsed with the death of its founder, but has been continued as the Anna Ticknor Library Association, recently established in new quarters in Trinity Court. The library privileges apply to all persons in the United States, and books are sent by mail to any address. The applicant sends $1 for deposit (which is returned to him when he severs connection with the library), and pays a small charge for books ordered sent. Catalogs of the books and photographs, and lists of courses of study are sent on application. There are about 3000 books, and a large number of photographs.

*Boston P. L.* A new departure at the library is the plan of mounting the "picture periodicals" on sheets, in future, instead of binding them up in volumes. There are several foreign periodicals which are devoted to reproduction of art examples, without other text than the titles. Instead of binding these in volumes, it is proposed to put them on separate sheets for use of students, the duplicates being put into the collections which are to be sent out to the branches and schools. They show different styles of architecture, schools of painting, etc., and a single number of the magazine is usually devoted to some particular style or school, so that the series will be very useful in supplementing the library's collection of reproductions. This will break up the volumes, but it is believed that the plan will lead to a greater use of the reproductions, and will save time which would otherwise be spent in hunting through indexes. It is not intended to break up the bound volumes of these periodicals already in the library, but no more will be bound in volumes.

On Oct. 21 Mr. W: C. Todd, of Atkinson, N. H., in a formal communication to Mayor Quincy, confirmed his offer of four years ago to present $50,000 to the Boston Public Library, the income of the sum to be devoted to

the purchase of newspapers. The offer was made in June, 1893, and since that time Mr. Todd has paid annually $2000 — being the yearly interest of the sum named — for that purpose. He now writes that three years' experience has confirmed the usefulness of the gift, and he presents the sum of $50,000 outright to the city, to be held in trust, and the income devoted to the maintenance of the newspaper department. The gift was accepted by the city council on Oct. 28.

A recent visitor to the library was Mr. Pierre Botkine, the representative of Russia at the sealing conference in Washington. The branches and delivery system were of special interest to him, and he expressed the intention of calling the attention of his own government to the matter, in the hope that a similar system would be adopted in Russia.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A.* On Nov. 22 the association took possession of a part of the old public school building no. 3, at Bedford and Jefferson avenues, which is to be used as a temporary home for the library. It is hoped to open early in December. The executive committee of the association held a meeting on Nov. 13, to hear the report of Corporation Counsel J. A. Burr on the association's title to public property, which it was thought could be legally used for library purposes. Mr. Burr's opinion was, however, that the association could not use the property, because the titles to it state that it must be used for educational purposes, which in the judgment of the counsel did not include libraries, but definitely embraced only institutions where persons are especially assigned to teach. This decision was not accepted as final, and it was decided that if the construction was supported an effort would be made to secure a site through legislative action.

The association held a book reception on the evening of Nov. 29, at the residence of Edward White; each guest brought a book to add to the library's collection and represented some book either by costume or by a badge. Prizes for guessing the greatest number of book titles were given, one being awarded to Miss Fanny Hull, librarian of the Union for Christian Work Library, and one to J. F. Hackstaff.

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L.* (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) This is the first printed annual report of the library, the statistics of previous years having been heretofore noted in the annual "Catalogue" of the institute, and the director and trustees are to be congratulated upon its interest and comprehensive excellence. The statistics may be summarized as follows: Added 3914; total 63,374. Issued, home use 314,290, of which 37,232 and 21,781 were issued from the Astral and Long Island branches respectively. Ref. use 13,073 (this includes only books brought from stack); ref. attendance 37,829; reading-room attendance 111,578. The growth in registration during the year was 5035; the total no. of active borrowers is not given.

The circulation shows a gain of 34,040 over the previous year; the fiction percentage has been, for the main library 65⅔%, 67% for the Astral branch, and 74% for the Long Island branch. This is inclusive of foreign fiction. "The question of the access of the public to the shelves, which has been more or less agitated among circulating libraries for the past two or three years, has come up for serious consideration in this library. Inasmuch as there are 14,520 volumes in the reference and art reference departments entirely free of access; as new books (not fiction) are placed where borrowers can examine them for a fortnight or so before they are shelved; as all books for children are in open shelves; and as any number of books may be called for either in the circulating or reference departments to be examined before borrowing, while shelf-permits are readily granted to all readers or borrowers showing good reason for the privilege; we are inclined to deprecate a further movement in this direction for the present."

The most notable incidents of the year have been the development of the children's room and of the art reference department. The former, Miss Plummer says, has required more thought than any other department; the methods and theories applied to it and resultant from it are perhaps best set forth in her article in the November L. J. (p. 679–686), but an interesting review of the subject is also given in the present report. There are 6831 children under 14 registered, and the circulation was 39,007; no guarantor is required for the children, the father's or mother's name only being given for reference. Indeed the director recommends "as an economy of time and labor, as well as a measure of conciliation," the disuse of the guarantee for the entire body of borrowers, replacing it by a simple statement of the borrower's responsibility from some reputable citizen.

The art reference department was opened in Oct., 1896, and during the year the collection of 15,000 photographs were mounted, placed in drawers, and the work of labelling, classifying, and cataloging was undertaken. The first year in the new building has, in all respects, proved one of enlarged growth and usefulness, and of a happy adjustment to greatly improved conditions.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* During October the library issued 68,902 v., the average daily circulation having been 2650. The total registration to Nov. 1 was 25,002. On Nov. 11 the finance committee of the board of aldermen authorized the extra appropriation of $20,000 asked for by the library authorities.

*Butte (Mont.) F. P. L.* During the coming year a finding list of the juvenile books in the library will be printed in instalments in the *High School Leader*, which is edited and published by the pupils of the city high school. Mr. Davies says "this feature is due to the request of the editors, and the list goes into just the hands I want it to. Our other advertising for the year will consist of about a column and a half in two and probably all three of our daily papers, mainly of notes on new books; a

series of articles on historical novels in *Quinn's Review*, and occasional reference lists."

*Camden, N. J.* A movement for the establishment of a free public library in the building known as the "Cooper Mansion" is being vigorously urged. The building, which is owned by the city and stands in a public park in a central site, was ordered torn down by the council on Nov. 15. Petitions were then circulated, asking that it be retained and used for library purposes; gifts of books and money subscriptions were promised, and the plan met with such general popular approval that the council voted to defer further action until public sentiment was more fully known. By Nov. 26 $2500 had been pledged and over 1000 volumes offered. A public meeting was held on Dec. 7, when a Public Library Association was formed and the movement attained organized impetus.

*Chicago, John Crerar L.* The first and second annual reports of the library, for 1895 and 1896, have just been issued in pamphlet form, and give interesting details of the work of organizing and preparing the collection for public use. At the time both reports were presented the library was still in a formative condition, not being opened to the public until the spring of this year, so that Mr. Andrews' suggestive and informing summary covers organization rather than administration. One of the most important features is the printed card catalog, which possesses a great advantage, "in that as many copies of a title as are desired can be had for the mere cost of the cards. This enables us to offer to those libraries in the city most interested in our work a complete catalog of our library; it also enables us to try the interesting experiment of making our catalog in the triple form of alphabetical author, alphabetical subject, and classed subject." The accession books of the library were opened Feb. 13, 1896, and during the year 11,090 v. were accessioned; 171 periodicals were in regular receipt, and a periodical list of 1317 titles, at an annual estimated cost of $501.77, had been prepared for submission to the book committee.

*Cleveland (O.) P. L.* The 29th report of the library, covering the year ending Aug. 31, 1897, was submitted to the board on Nov. 1. The chief statistics for the period were as follows: Added 25,629; total 129,160. Issued home use 782,568; ref. use 161,849; ref. attendance 193,298.

The report reveals a development in all lines of the library's work that is as remarkable as it is gratifying. Taking the item of circulation alone, there is shown a net gain of 186,199, or 21% over the previous year, while in the accession department "the growth of the library is almost double of any previous year in its history." Indeed, it is difficult to single out any special line in which development has been most marked, so well sustained is the growth throughout the entire library body. The foregoing statistics include the work of the main library, of the five branches and the three delivery stations. Of the former one, the South Side branch was opened during the year, while two of the stations were established within the past six months. The issue of books through the schools has been continued, 4131 v. having been drawn by 87 teachers, and issued by them to their pupils 33,116 times; the use of books in this way "is now only limited by the number available; several times as many could be kept in constant use."

In the library bindery 3509 v. were bound, 11,251 rebound, and 16,854 repaired, at an expense of $3926.67.

As the most important incidents of the year, outside the routine work, Mr. Brett describes the formation of the Library League, the influence of which in the proper care of books "can already be clearly observed"; and the series of library lectures, given under the auspices of the university extension department of the University of Chicago in December, 1896, by Miss Katherine L. Sharp.

"The record of the year shows clearly work of much greater magnitude, and so far as the figures can record it and observations can discuss it, work of better quality than ever before." This is traced, first to the natural growth of the city, second to the branches and stations, and third to the large accessions; but in addition to these causes, "The success of the last year's work is due to the distinct and noteworthy increase of interest in the work which has been shown by almost the entire force. This is shown in a higher appreciation of the importance of the work of the library, a greater pride in its success, a desire to improve every opportunity, to prepare for it, a keener outlook for any additional opportunities of usefulness, greater diligence and more careful attention to every detail of the work. This improvement is due, I believe, to an earnest desire which is almost universal in the library, to make the work effective. It has been increased by the stimulus of the association meetings and by meeting and associating with those from other libraries, by the special training received by some of our assistants in the regular or summer library school, and by the course of lectures already mentioned."

Suggestions for the future include extension of the branch and delivery system, and the establishment or facilities for special training in library work.

*Colorado libraries.* STATE OF COLORADO. Libraries: their establishment and management; library laws of Colorado; issued by Grace Espy Patton, superintendent of public instruction and ex-officio state librarian. Denver, Oct. 10, 1897. 58 p. O.

The material for this pamphlet was compiled by the librarian or members of the staff of the Denver Public Library and printed in part in the *Colorado School Journal* in April. It is a descriptive summary of the library activities of the state, including the library laws, the state library association, and individual libraries of the state, and giving also practical suggestions on how to start a public library, details of elementary library routine, lists of books and

magazines, and references to the most necessary library tools.

*Denver, Colo.* The question of consolidating the Public and City libraries under a single management, which has frequently been brought up, has been revived by Mr. Dana's resignation from the Public Library. It is urged that by such consolidation expenditures would be reduced and the tax support would be more evenly distributed, while a single strong library would be able to fill a wider field than two smaller institutions working separately. A new building would be a necessity, however, before such consolidation could be effected.

*Georgia State L. Commission.* The Georgia State Library Commission bill passed the General Assembly on Nov. 24; it provides for the appointment of five commissioners by the governor, to serve without remuneration, and to report biennially.

*Helena (Mont.) P. L.* The question of whether the library board or the city council is the controlling authority in the administration of the library has come up for decision within the past few months. One of the first incidents to waken the contention was the refusal in August of the city council to allow the salary of Mr. Patten, the librarian, during his trip East to attend the Philadelphia conference and inspect libraries, for which leave of absence with pay had been granted by the library board. At a later council meeting on Sept. 8 it was decided to allow this claim, but the matter has made clear the necessity of a definite adjustment of the relations between the library and the council.

The whole question is not yet settled, but there is good reason to feel confident of an outcome that will leave the library in good condition. The state of affairs is thus summed up:

The Montana state library law is not a good one, and thus far there has been opposition enough to prevent the passage of a good law. There will probably be an effort made again for the third time at the legislative session of 1899 to get a better state law. The present Montana law is such that the final authority in library affairs rests with the city council. The Helena council has in the past assumed no authority, leaving the management to the library board of seven trustees. In Helena each library trustee serves for three years, and the office being one of power, responsibility, and honor, it has been possible to secure the services of the best citizens. Under these conditions the library has been growing into a valuable educational institution. Although Helena is not by any means a boss-ridden town, yet certain spoils politicians have all along been looking with envy upon the prosperous and growing public library. Last spring the library board was somewhat weakened by the mayor's appointments. This and other circumstances made a much more favorable library opportunity for the politicians than they had ever had before, and there was no hesitation about trying their chances. There were threatenings of trouble for some months, but by summer it was thought the danger to the library had passed. Unexpectedly, however, the trouble came on in August, and it has been necessary to fight for the principle that the management of the library should be left in the hands of the library trustees.

With the advice of good legal talent an ordinance has been prepared which delegates the management of the library to the library trustees. It is believed that if the city council can be led to see that it is advisable to pass this ordinance, that body will thereafter be disposed to leave library management to the trustees. Unless the library can be so situated the most competent people will hardly be willing to serve on the library board, and there will be constant danger to the institution from the spoilsmen. The city attorney has been opposing the proposed ordinance on the ground that it is legal, appropriate, and wise, that the council itself should exercise the power of management. The friends of the library hope that the city attorney and nearly all the members of the city council will yet become convinced that the ordinance should pass. Fortunately the library can rely upon a very strong public sentiment in its favor. There is very little opposition to the one-mill tax for library purposes on the part of the people of intelligence or on the part of the large taxpayers. A year ago last spring when the people of the city were asked to vote a regular annual tax of one mill on the dollar instead of the former tax of one-half mill, the vote showed more than three to one in favor of the one-mill tax. The same sentiment prevails now, and a vote at any time would yield a like result. The final outcome of this contest is pretty sure to be a library success.

*Indiana State L., Indianapolis.* Prof. W. E. Henry, state librarian, has made a report to the state board of education, describing the changes and improvements effected or needed at the library. The large space devoted to a public reading-room has been reduced, and a much-needed reference-room established; the chaotic collection of documents and duplicates in the basement store rooms have been brought into ordered arrangement and listed; and a beginning has been made toward a bibliography of the state, the preparation of which is considered as most important. The publication of a complete printed catalog is also much needed, and Prof. Henry has planned to make the library more useful to legislators by the issue of bibliographies upon legislative subjects and by an index to state legislation in all the states for 1897–1898, which it is hoped to publish before the session of 1899. These plans have been vigorously presented, and their development will mean much in strengthening the usefulness of the library.

*Lynn, Mass. Shute P. L.* Plans for the new Shute library building were accepted on Nov. 11, when the trustees voted to take the designs submitted by G. H. Moore, of Boston, as a basis to work upon, retaining Mr. Moore as consulting architect. The plans, which will be later modified, call for a building 114 x 94, three-storied and Grecian in style, to be of buff

Indiana stone. There are to be three entrances, the main one opening into a vestibule 12 feet square, which connects with a transverse lobby. From this opens the children's reading-room, 35 x 43, and two small study-rooms. Short marble stairways lead up to the delivery-room or down to the basement. The delivery-room is to be 12-sided, 33 feet in diameter, and opening from it is the main reading-room, 36 x 61. The card catalog room is connected with these rooms. The stack-room will have a capacity of 200,000 v. There is provision for librarian's and cataloging rooms, and for private and public toilet rooms. On the second floor are two art rooms, reference-room, lecture-room, and trustees' room; the third floor is unassigned.

*Marinette, Wis.* Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, delivered an address on libraries at Marinette, on Dec. 3, 1897, upon conclusion of which she stated that a prominent citizen of the city had authorized her to announce that a library building, second to none in the state, would soon be erected at Marinette. The announcement was received with great enthusiasm. On Dec. 4 Miss Stearns met with a number of citizens interested in the travelling library movement, and the organization of the Marinette Free Travelling Library Association was effected. President, Mrs. Isaac Stephenson; Vice-president, J. F. Le Roy; Secretary, F. E. Noyes; Treasurer, Miss B. Merriman; Librarian, Mrs. A. Sceeny, all of Marinette, Wis. The association will confine its work, for the present, to Marinette county, with the Marinette Public Library as its headquarters.

*Middletown, N. Y.* At a council meeting on Oct. 25 the town formally accepted the legacy of $30,000 bequeathed by Mrs. Marietta Thrall for the erection of a public library building.

*New Orleans. Fisk F. and P. L.* The library was reopened on Nov. 15, after having been closed for several weeks owing to the prevalence of yellow fever in the city. The report of the librarian for the six months ending in October show a home circulation of 25,488 v. and a reference use of 2654.

*New York. Y. M. C. A. L.* The library is now fairly installed in its handsome quarters in the new building on 57th st., and the librarian, Mr. Berry, and his assistant, Mr. Bursch, are well advanced in their arduous task of arranging the 45,000 v. for regular use. The circulating department, on the fifth floor, will not be in readiness for some months yet, as it is an innovation, books having heretofore been issued for library use only. The reference and reading-rooms are on the sixth floor, and will be largely supplied with an open-shelf collection of reference-books.

The 44th report of the association, for the year ending Jan., 1897, gives the following facts regarding the work of the library. Added 1192; total 45,703. There were 56,096 books consulted by 35,900 readers, an increase of 3584 over the previous year; the percentage of fiction was but 14. The total attendance is given as 55,030, and the Sunday attendance showed a considerable increase.

*Newark (N. Y.) F. L. A.* The association held its first annual public meeting on the evening of Nov. 16. The library was opened in January of this year, and contains about 1000 v.; the circulation was 7130 (fict 70%), and there are 718 borrowers registered.

About seven years ago Henry C. Rew, of Chicago, offered to present to the village a piece of property valued at $5000, together with $10,000 in money, providing the townspeople would raise $10,000 more and build a library after his plans, the library to be known as the Rew library. At that time the sum required could not be raised and the matter was dropped until this year, when the association was formed and reopened correspondence with Mr. Rew, who renewed his offer, and sent on the plans for consideration and acceptance. It was at first thought that the conditions might be accepted, but at a meeting of the trustees on Nov. 30, Mr. Rew's proposition was formally declined, on account of "the impracticability of any attempt to secure from this locality the required sum."

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L.* (167th rpt. — year ending Aug., '97.) Added 2021; total 44,054. The Calvert bequest of 1115 v. is of special importance, covering all classes of literature, but especially rich in works by and concerning Goethe. There were 14,501 v. issued for home use, the fiction percentage being 68.7. A printed finding list "is eminently desirable."

*Omaha (Neb.) P. L.* At a meeting of the directors on Nov. 9 it was decided to establish a children's department. A seven-day non-renewable limit on new and popular books has been adopted.

*Philadelphia. Normal School L.* The library is open every school day of the year from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Teachers in all departments and pupils in the normal department are entitled to readers' cards, on which two books may be drawn at a time. The children in the model school use the library only for reference at present, but it is hoped soon to grant them the same privileges as the older scholars. The library now contains 3900 volumes, 300 of which have been added since the first of September. The books are arranged according to the Dewey classification, and all departments are fairly well represented. The report for the past school year shows a total circulation of 10,479 v.

The lantern slides which the teachers use in illustrating their lectures with stereopticon views have been placed in the library. The slides have been classified according to the Dewey system and are kept in a cabinet made especially for that use. A complete catalog on cards has been made of them, and they circulate in the same manner as a book, the record being kept on cards similar to the book-slips.

*Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie F. L.* Founders' day was celebrated at the Carnegie Library on

Nov. 3, when elaborate exercises were held in the beautiful music hall of the building. President McKinley was the guest of honor and made a short address. Other speakers were W. N. Frew, president of the board of trustees, Rev. W. J. Holland, and Hon. John Dalzell; a letter from Mr. Carnegie was read, and the report of the library trustees was presented by Samuel Harden Church, secretary. At the close of the exercises the President held a public reception.

*Port Huron (Mich.) P. L.* A poster exhibit was held at the library from Nov. 3–6, in which about 300 examples of American and foreign posters were shown. It proved extremely popular.

*Portland (Me.) P. L.* The improvements made in the library this summer have cost $24,645.28, and have practically made the library almost like a new building in added convenience and capacity. The chief change is the installation of a fine new Snead stack, with a total book capacity, including future extension, of 240,000 v. This has permitted the rearrangement of the interior of the library, the establishment of a separate children's department, and other much-needed changes.

*Princeton, N. J. Univ. L.* The new library building, which is now rapidly nearing completion, is described in detail by E. C. Richardson, librarian, in the *Alumni Princetonian* of Nov. 11, in which are given reproductions of the views of different aspects of the fine structure, that appeared in *Harper's Weekly*. Dr. Richardson's paper is an admirable summary of the functions of a college library, as well as a lucid statement of the architectural and administrative details of a notable building.

*Quincy (Ill.) P. L.* A new method of meeting the demand for new popular novels has been adopted. A number of duplicates of such books have been bought, and these are issued to readers on payment of five cents a reading; this, it is thought, will make it possible to supply the desired books without drawing upon the regular book fund. Mr. Moulton writes: "We find that this plan works well. The people are very willing to pay for the books. We expect to sell them when the demand ceases."

*Rochester, N. Y. Reynolds L.* The report of the library committee for the year ending Oct. 1, 1897, was presented at the annual meeting of trustees, held Oct. 11. There was an attendance of 117,995 during the year, being a gain of nearly 20,000 over 1895–6. The additions number 2083 and the total is now 33,451. "The most marked improvement in the work of the library is shown in the more cordial and effective relationship which has come to be established with reading classes, literary clubs, and scientific societies throughout the city. By the permission which has been given to such organizations to hold their meetings in the library rooms, and by other kinds of assistance which have been afforded to them in the purchase of books and the reserving of books in the reference-room for their benefit, the library has come to be more and more a recognized intellectual centre."

*Sturbridge, Mass. Hyde P. L.* Our mention of the library dedication exercises (L. J., Aug., 1897, p. 413) failed to record the address of Mr. M. F. Dickinson, of Boston, which was really the leading address of the day. Mr. S: S. Green in his address on the occasion, remarked that Sturbridge was the 20th town in the county in which a building had been given to a town in which to house its public library.

*Tacoma (Wash.) City L.* Sunday opening was tried at the library early in November, but it was not thought that the attendance showed a public demand for it. The present librarian, Mr. McCready, who is the third to hold office since the removal of W: Curtis Taylor in 1896, has planned the publication of a printed catalog, to be sold at 10 c. For the past year the library has been the scene of a succession of political appointments, a state of affairs not favorable to successful development.

*Tekamah, Neb.* A reading-room has been opened, which it is hoped will develop in time into a free library; it is supported by a fund raised by citizens.

*Troy, N. Y. Library meeting.* A meeting of persons interested in library matters was held on the evening of Nov. 14 at the Troy Universalist Church, when the development of the children's neighborhood library, conducted for some years under the management of the church, was a subject of discussion. The chief speaker was Melvil Dewey, who gave a stirring address, and W. R. Eastman also spoke. The library has proved highly successful during the three years of its existence. It contains 800 v., is open from 3 p.m. to 5.30, and from 6.30 to 8.15 p.m., and the usual average of evening attendance is from 50 to 75.

*Warsaw, N. Y.* At a meeting of the local historical society on Nov. 1, a paper was read by H. A. Dudley, urging the establishment of a free public library. It was suggested that the present school library should be made the nucleus of such a collection, and that money be raised by subscription or taxation to add to it and to erect a building. The plan has been taken up by the local press.

*Washington, D. C. U. S. Congressional L.* The department for the blind is proving one of the most successful features of the new building. Readings have been given there by Mrs. John Russell Young, who has taken a special interest in this department, and who has also arranged for readings by others. On Nov. 17 Paul Lawrence Dunbar read from his poems to a large audience.

*Youngstown (O.) P. L. A.* A public subscription fund has been opened to secure a site known as the Richard Brown property, for a home for the Reuben McMillen Free Library. The purchase price of the property, which includes a handsome dwelling-house, is $17,000, and it is proposed to remodel the building into an adequate library.

*FOREIGN.*

*British Museum L., London.* (Return — year ending March 31, '97.) The main statistics of this report were summarized in the L. J. for November (p. 719), but it should be said that the total number of visitors to the museum was 581,906, not 551,800, as there stated. "The total number of visits of students to the reading-room during the year was 191,363"; the daily average was about 630, and the entire use showed a decrease of 3000 from 1895, which in turn was 8000 less than in 1894; "this diminution may perhaps in some degree be accounted for by the growth of local libraries in the metropolis." Although the number of readers has declined, the number of volumes supplied to them is larger than that of 1895, being 1,428,535, as against 1,405,866. The additions for the year comprised 36,609 v. and pm., of which 16,939 were purchased; 65,330 parts of volumes or serials; 1233 maps; 5396 pieces of music; 3343 newspapers, comprising 210,844 single nos.; and 4075 miscellaneous items. The descriptive account of "acquisitions of special interest" covers three pages.

*British Museum, Harleian L.* STONE, J. M. Our national collection of manuscripts — the Harleian library. (*In Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, October, 1897. 162: 494–511.)

An historical account of the great collection and its collectors.

*Leipzig, Saxony.* The library of the late Prof. Victor Meyer, of the University of Heidelberg, has been put upon the market by Gustav Fock, of Leipzig. It is a considerable chemical collection, especially full in sets of periodicals and serials, among which Liebig's *Annalen*, 1832–96, is of special interest.

*Nottingham (Eng.) F. P. Ls.* (Rpt. — year ending March 1, '97.) Added 2548; total 83,984, of which 30,205 are in the ref. l., 30,905 in the central lending l., and 22,874 in the branches. Issued, ref. l. 59,644; central lending l. 154,680 (fict. 81.60 %); total issue, incl. five branches, 10 reading-rooms, etc., 411,157 (fict. 58.77 %). Total attendance 2,109,062.

"During the year more than 3300 cards of membership in the central lending library were issued. In the aggregate about 10,000 persons were regularly borrowing books from the libraries for home reading."

Five catalogs, general and special, were issued during the year; two new book delivery stations were opened, and two children's sections were established in existing branches. From the children's section of the central lending library alone 21,506 v. were issued, of which 75.69 % were poetry and fiction. During the winter season 17 "lecturettes" on books and authors were given at the branches by different speakers.

*Paris, Societé Bibliographique.* The Societé Bibliographique, through the Marquis de Beaucourt, president of the committee of organization, and E. G. Ledos, general secretary, has issued an announcement of the third international bibliographical conference, to be held under its auspices at Paris, April 13–16, 1898. The society is divided into four sections, the first devoted to scientific and literary progress; the second to bibliography proper; the third embracing popular publications and general library propaganda, and the fourth relating to "societies and international relations." It is a Catholic organization, and holds closely to doctrinal purposes, but extends an invitation to its conference to all who, "though not sharing its convictions, are not animated by a hostile spirit"; it also admits, upon subjects in which religious doctrines are not concerned, the reports of non-Catholic scholars. The conference, like its predecessors of 1878 and 1888, will be largely devoted to reports upon the progress in the various branches of bibliography, science, and literature within the 10 years since the previous convention.

*Stratford (Ontario, Can.) P. L.* On Nov. 23 the Stratford town hall, in which the library had its quarters, was entirely destroyed by fire. The loss of the library is keenly felt. It was moved into the hall only last June, and the reading-rooms had been attractively fitted up and were largely used. It contained over 5000 volumes, valued at about $4000; the insurance was $2000.

## Gifts and Bequests.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) L.* The library recently received from Mrs. Augustus Harper and her son, James Harper, a complete set of the *London Illustrated News*, since its beginning in 1842, in 104 volumes. The gift was made in memory of Philip Jacob Arcularius Harper.

*Cornell Univ., Ithaca.* The library of the State Veterinary College at Cornell received a gift of $5000 on Sept. 20, from ex-Governor Roswell P. Flower. Mr. Flower, with ex-Governor A. B. Cornell and J. C. Hendrix, was driving past the college when one of the horses balked and could not be induced to move. It was suggested that the party wait in the college, through which they were conducted by Prof. Law, the director. The college library consisted of 15 volumes, a bill, appropriating $5000 for its establishment having failed to pass the legislature during Mr. Flower's governorship. This was referred to by Mr. Cornell, who remarked that it would be fitting for Mr. Flower to give a library to the college, inasmuch as his legislature failed to do so. The remark was meant as a joke, but Mr. Flower asked Prof. Law how much money was needed for the purpose. Prof. Law said $5000, and then Mr. Flower astonished the party by taking out his checkbook and making out a check for $5000, which he handed to Prof. Law.

*Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L.* The library has received from H. C. Payne eight volumes in which are bound up all documents, pamphlets, circulars or other material used by the Republican National Committee in the last presidential campaign; all languages spoken to a consider-

able extent are represented in the collection, which is believed to be the most complete record of a political campaign yet made.

*North Adams, Mass.* On Nov. 1 Mayor Albert C. Houghton gave the city $10,000 to be used in equipping and remodelling the Houghton Memorial Library, which is to be established in the handsome Sanford Blackinton residence, given by him for a library building a year ago, in memory of his brother, Andrew J. Houghton.

*Pennsylvania Historical Society L.* The fine collection of Washingtoniana, owned by the late William Spohn Baker, has been left by his will to the library of the society.

*White River Junction, Vt.* By the will of Charles T. Wilder, late president of the Olcott Falls Co. of White River Junction, the sum of $30,000 is left to the town for a free public library, the site of which is specified.

*Winsted, Ct.* The will of the late Jeremiah Whiting, after providing liberally for his widow, bequeathes the residue of his estate and a piece of valuable property to four persons, in trust, to be used for the erection and site of a memorial library building. His wife is named as executrix.

## Practical Notes.

PRESERVING BINDINGS. — Arthur L. Humphreys, in his manual on "The private library," quotes as follows a librarian of Bath, England, on the subject of preserving bindings: "When the books are well dusted I take about half an ounce of the best horn glue, and, having dissolved it in the usual way, I add to it about a pint of warm water and a teaspoonful of glycerine, and stir it well. Then dipping a soft sponge into the solution, I wash over the backs of the books. If the leather is much perished or decayed, it will unduly absorb the size, and a second touch over may be necessary. The glycerine will have the effect of preventing the glue from drying too hard or stiffening the leather. When dry, the books may be rubbed over with a chamois leather. The above process, I find, helps to nourish the leather, and to restore that property which the heated air has destroyed. It also freshens up and greatly improves the appearance of the volumes upon the shelves. The operation must be repeated once a year at least."

## Librarians.

BLAKE, Miss Irma I., a library pupil of Miss Theresa Hitchler, is now chief cataloger at the New York Society Library.

BROWN, James E., of Coweta, Ga., was on Nov. 4 appointed state librarian of Georgia, by Governor Atkinson, succeeding Capt. John Milledge, who has held that office for about eight years past. The appointment ends the varied and hotly urged political fight for the headship of the Georgia State Library, which has been waged for over six months past. Mr. Brown is editor and proprietor of the Newman (Ga.) *Herald and Advertiser*, and has for some years been active in state politics. He was Democratic postmaster at Newman under the last administration. No immediate changes in the library staff have been made, and Capt. Milledge's connection with the library will continue until Jan. 1.

BULLOCK, Edna Dean, a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School, class of '94, has resigned her position at the John Crerar Library to accept the position of cataloger in the University of Nebraska.

CLEVELAND, Miss Josephine P., for many years librarian of the Illinois State Historical Society of Springfield, died at her home in that city, on Nov. 9. Miss Cleveland joined the A. L. A. in 1893.

COLE, George Watson, formerly librarian of the Jersey City (N. J.) Public Library, has returned from nearly a year's sojourn abroad, and is now in New York City.

CORWIN, Miss Euphemia K., has resigned her position as cataloger in the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library to become assistant librarian at the Union Theological Seminary, New York City.

DANA, John Cotton, librarian of the Denver (Colo.) Public Library, was on Nov. 17 elected librarian of the Springfield (Mass.) City Library, succeeding the late Dr. William Rice. Mr. Dana's work in the library field began in 1889, when he assumed charge of the Denver library, then a collection of some 2000 books, managed by the high school authorities. In the eight years of his direction the library has grown to over 30,000 volumes, and has become one of the representative libraries of the country, being among the first to develop the principles of free access, of art educational work, of direct work with the children, and of better training for library workers, and branching out constantly into new fields of successful endeavor. During his connection with the Denver library Mr. Dana has been active in advancing the library interests of the state, notably in the organization of the state library association and in the efforts to improve the state library and obtain needed library legislation. At the Denver conference in 1895 he was elected president of the American Library Association, and his president's address at the Cleveland conference will be long remembered as probably the most searching and powerful presentment of library ideals that has been given to librarians. Mr. Dana is recognized throughout the library profession as an executive of great organizing ability and brilliant powers; his utterances on library subjects and the practical object-lessons given through the Denver Public Library have been of direct help and inspiration to libraries throughout the country, and his appointment to Springfield, which should open a wide and pleasant field, is a matter of satisfaction to his friends

and of congratulation to the library where Dr. Rice's name was so long honored. He will probably assume charge of the Springfield library on or about Jan. 1.

DIGGS, Mrs. Anna L., was on Nov. 13 appointed state librarian of Kansas by Chief Justice Doster and Associate Justice Allen, constituting a majority of the state supreme court, the appointment having been opposed by the governor. Mrs. Diggs is a Populist politician and orator who has been associated with Mrs. Lease in Kansas politics, and has spoken in every state campaign since 1890. She succeeds J. L. King, who has held office since 1894.

FITZGERALD, David, for 18 years librarian of the U. S. War Department, died at his residence in Washington, D. C., on Sunday, Oct. 31. Mr. Fitzgerald was born in London, June 8, 1844, and came to the United States while quite young, living for some time in Iowa. He was appointed librarian of the War Department in 1879, his broad culture and deep interest in military subjects making him especially fitted for the post, in which he made many friends.

FRICK, Miss Eleanor, a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has been appointed librarian of the American Society of Civil Engineers, New York City.

HACKETT, Miss Irene A., a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '97, has been appointed librarian of the Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. Library, succeeding Mr. S. H. Berry.

HAYWARD, Miss Celia, formerly assistant in the San Francisco Public Library, is now librarian of the Galesburg (Ill.) Public Library.

KELSO, Miss Tessa L., formerly librarian of the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library, has severed her connection with Charles Scribner's Sons, and is now associated with The Baker & Taylor Co., New York.

LONGSTREET, Mrs. James, who, as Miss Ellen Dortch, was one of the active candidates for the post of state librarian of Georgia, resigned her position of assistant librarian of the Georgia State Library on Oct. 31. She was succeeded by Miss Susan Jewett, of Columbus, who will probably serve only for the remainder of Mrs. Longstreet's term, the appointment of assistant being now vested in the newly appointed state librarian.

PLATOU, Miss Valborg. The name of the librarian at Bergen, Norway, is Miss Valborg Platou, not Miss Valbag Platon, as given, through a misreading of her signature, in the November L. J. A correspondent, in this connection, corrects our reference to another Scandinavian town. As a matter of fact, the town is known to its inhabitants as Goteborg, and to foreigners as Gothenburg, as Wien is known as Vienne and Vienna to Frenchmen and Englishmen.

RICE, Helen Ward, a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School, class of '93, died at her home, Worcester, Mass., November 28.

RICE, William, D.D. An impressive memorial service in honor of the late Dr. Rice, librarian of the Springfield (Mass.) City Library, was held in Springfield on the evening of Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the lecture-room of the beautiful art museum, by the City Library Association. The service was largely attended; in the audience were W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library; Joseph LeRoy Harrison, librarian of the Providence Athenæum; Rev. S. G. Buckingham, Rev. William Rice Newhall, of Wilbraham, and others. The principal address was by George S. Merriam, and other speakers were J. A. Rumrill, president of the Library Association, Dr. I. M. Balliet, and Rev. G. C. Baldwin, Jr.

SCHWARTZ, Jacob, librarian of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, of New York City, contributed to the N. Y. *Sun* on Nov. 17 an effective analysis of the alleged "report" of Pontius Pilate on the Crucifixion, exploited by one of the New York journals as being an authentic record recently discovered in the Vatican archives. Mr. Schwartz's keen statement of the internal evidence of the document itself, as proof against its authenticity, is interesting, his conclusion being that "this 'report' is only another example of the many pious frauds with which the Christian world was deluged during the first 300 years of its existence."

SPERRY, Miss Helen, librarian of the Carnegie Free Library, of Braddock, Pa., has resigned her position to become librarian of the new Carnegie Free Library at Homestead, Pa. Miss Sperry, who is a graduate of the N. Y. State Library School, went to the Braddock Library in November, 1895, as assistant librarian, and on the appointment of Mr. E. H. Anderson to the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library succeeded him as librarian. Miss Elizabeth Wales, assistant librarian at Braddock, will succeed Miss Sperry. It is unlikely that the Homestead Library will be in readiness for opening until spring; the building has just been completed, and the ordering and cataloging of the books is yet to be done.

SPOFFORD, Ainsworth R. The deficiency of about $20,000 in the accounts of Mr. Spofford, as Librarian of Congress, revealed by the Treasury investigation of 1895, and made good at that time by Mr. Spofford from his private funds, has been recently explained, and has made clear Mr. Spofford's entire freedom from wrong-doing. In investigating the old records and clearing away accumulated material consequent upon the removal of the Congressional Library to the new building, uncashed money-orders, checks, and currency were discovered in drawers and pigeon-holes in old desks in the librarian's office, where they had been absent-mindedly tucked away and forgotten. Some of the orders bore dates back as far as 1870, and were for sums ranging from $1 to $20 or $30; the sum total of the money thus discovered, though not definitely stated, is said to amount nearly to the deficiency in Mr. Spofford's ac-

counts. Many of the orders had expired by limitation, but it is said that full payment for them will be made by the post-office, and the money turned over to Mr. Spofford up to the amount paid out by him in rectification of his accounts.

NOTABLE LIBRARIANS. The Pratt Institute *Monthly* for January will be the second special "library number," and will contain portraits and biographical sketches of the librarians of the world's great libraries — Dr. Garnett, M. Delisle, Dr. Reyer, Signora Ricci, Dr. Billings, are among those who will be represented.

## Cataloging and Classification.

BOLTON, C. K., contributes to the *Essex Antiquarian* for November, 1897, an interesting paper on "Colonial handwriting," which is of interest to catalogers of manuscripts, in its clear statement of rules by which the perplexing chirography of colonial times may be deciphered.

BOSTON P. L. Catalogue of the English prose fiction added since 1893: supplement to the 8th edition. Boston, 1897. 48 p. O.

This, together with the English prose fiction list of 1893, represents all the fiction of this class contained in the library for ordinary circulation. Contents are given for volumes of short stories, and there are a few descriptive notes for historical fiction.

The BUFFALO (*N. Y.*) P. L. has issued several excellent short special reading lists. "American history for young folks" is a classed list, each special period being supplemented by a list of stories relating to it, while the final division includes "History in verse." This is compiled by Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, as is the capital little list of "One hundred short stories," in which, however, Howells' farce, "The mouse-trap," seems rather misplaced. "Good books on electricity for popular use" is an annotated list compiled by Claude G. Leland, embracing 14 titles. The comments are excellent, and the price and publisher of each book are given — a useful hint to the student who is collecting a library of his own.

The FITCHBURG (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for November has reference lists on William Morris and "Alaska and the Klondike."

The IOWA MASONIC L. of Cedar Rapids has issued no. 2 of its *Occasional Bulletin*, for December, 1897. No. 1 appeared in April of last year. It is planned during 1898 to issue the *Bulletin* quarterly in enlarged form.

The LOWELL (*Mass.*) CITY L. *Bulletin* for November is devoted wholly to reference list no. 9, on "American authors: Bryant, Emerson, Hawthorne, Holmes, Irving, Longfellow, Lowell, Poe, Thoreau, Whittier."

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for October publishes a map of the neighborhood of Smith Mills and a sketch of the early history of the mills from the Elisha Leonard papers now in the library. In the same issue appears reference list no. 25 on "Hawaii and the question of annexation to the United States."

The N. Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY *Bulletin* for November contains part 3 of the list of American genealogies, from M–R, and prints a record of "The portraits, letters, and mss. relating to the presidents of Congress, and of the United States," from the Emmet collection.

The OSTERHOUT (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) L. *Newsletter* for November contains no. 9 of the English history lists, dealing with James II., 1685–88. To this and the preceding numbers of the *Newsletter* Miss James is contributing a series of delightful papers describing, with vivacity and graphic charm, features of the international conference and the post-conference travels.

The RAWLINSON MSS. in the Bodleian Library are listed in the *Nation*, nos. 1689 and 1690 (Nov. 11 and 18). The first instalment is prefaced by a short description of these and some other of the mss. treasures of the Bodleian. The list, while it does not pretend to include every document in the Rawlinson collection, "supplies particulars of most of those that relate to the colonial period of American history."

ST. BRIDE FOUNDATION INSTITUTE, *London*. Catalogue of the Passmore Edwards Library; comp. by John Southward, assisted by the librarian. London, 1897. 16+80 p. por. O.

The institute possesses two libraries, both of which are of special value to those interested in the printing arts. These are the William Blades Library, which is wholly devoted to the subject of typography, and the Passmore Edwards Library, which, although partly given up to works on the history of printing, is more especially devoted to the modern developments of the art and is intended especially for the art students of the institute's technical classes. This catalog is in dictionary form, giving short title, place and date of publication and size. There are frequent excellent annotations, and the titles of foreign books are either translated or their contents are stated; "this will render many of them available to a number of persons who, while not able to read the language in which they are written, will find the designs, reproductions, tables, etc., which they contain, perfectly intelligible." A portrait of Mr. Passmore Edwards appears as frontispiece.

SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Class list no. 4: literature, language, general works. Salem, Mass., Sept., 1897, 2 + 72 p. O.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for November devotes its special reading lists to Goethe and Thankgiving day.

The SAN FRANCISCO (*Cal.*) P. L. *Bulletin* continues in the October number Mr. Teggart's list of "References on the development of the English novel."

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for December lists all the fiction added in 1897 and has a reading list on electricity.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for November continues the reading list on "Alaska and the Yukon gold-fields" from the October issue.

TRANSLITERATION OF RUSSIAN NAMES. Jerome Barker Landfield contributed to the *American Historical Review* for July an article on the transliteration of Russian names, which should be of direct usefulness to catalogers. It is a simple and practical "canon of transliteration," using English letters or combinations of letters for the French or German forms that render a single Russian name in protean transformations; and the directions given are clear and easily remembered.

The WALTHAM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for November continues the special list on "Ancient Greece" from the preceding number.

*FULL NAMES.*

*Supplied by A. G. S. Josephson, John Crerar Library, Chicago.*

Aber, Mary Rose Alling-. (An experiment in education);
Baldwin, W: James St. John. (Baldwin on heating.) [Given as W: James, by Harvard L., L. J., 15 : 157];
Bayne, S: Gamble. (The pith of astronomy);
Benton, Emily Elizabeth. (The happy method in numbers for little people);
Blow, Susan Elizabeth. (Symbolic education);
Charles, Fred Lemar. (How to read a pebble);
Cross, Anson Kent. (Light and shade);
Dean, Mary Ida. (The geography class);
Ellison, Lewis Martin. (Practical application of the indicator with reference to the adjustment of valve gear on all styles of engines);
Fernald, James Champlin. (English synonyms and antonyms);
Galloway, D: H: (A method of preserving unbound literature);
Johnson, J: Butler. (The materials of construction);
Keeler, Harriet Louise. (The wild flowers of early spring);
Kelley, James Douglas Jerrold. (The ship's company);
Kellogg, Amos M. (How to teach botany); (Has no middle name but the letter.)
Mason, Rufus Osgood. (Telepathy and the subliminal self);
Mason, W: Pitt. (Water supply);
Monachesi, *Mrs.* Nicola di Rienzi. (A manual for china painters);
Montgomery, James L: (Modern bookkeeping, single and double entry);
Noble, Frank H: (Taxation in Iowa);
Noyes, Arthur Anderson. (A detailed course of qualitative chemical analysis of inorganic substances);
Rupp, G: Peabody, *editor*. (Statue of Stephen Girard);
Wilson, Herbert Michael. (Manual of irrigation engineering).

## Bibliografy.

BRITISH MUNICIPAL HISTORY. Gross, Charles. Bibliography of British municipal history, including gilds and parliamentary representation. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1897. 34 + 461 p. O. $2.50.

CAMPANIA, *Italy*. Furchheim, Federigo. Bibliografia della Campania, v. 1: Bibliografia del Vesuvio, compilata e corredata di note critiche estratte dai più autorevoli scrittori Vesuviani; con un copioso indice metodico. Naples. F. Furchheim, 1897. 12 + 297 p. l. 8°.

CITY GOVERNMENT. Wilcox, Delos F. The study of city government: an outline of the problems of municipal functions, control and organization. New York, Macmillan Co., 1897. 14 + 268 p. 12°. $1.50.
Contains a 4-page list of authorities.

FÉNELON (*Archbishop of Cambray.*) Ramsay, Andrew Michael. History of the life of Fénelon; tr. from the French edition of 1723, by David Cuthbertson. Paisley, J. and R. Parlane, 1897. 276 p. 16°.
Contains a 3-page bibliography.

GREGORIAN MELODIES. Corney, Wilfrid. The Gregorian melodies in the manuscripts and the editions. [*In The Dublin Review*, Oct., 1897. 121 : 332 – 354.]
An interesting account of the liturgical music, often known as "Gregorian chant."

LAW. Bibliographie générale et complète des livres de droit et de jurisprudence publiés jusqu' au 23 octobre 1896, classée dans l'ordre des codes, avec table alphabétique des matières et des noms des auteurs. Paris, Marchal et Billard, 1897. 30+152 p. 8°. 1.25 fr.

METEORITES. Wülfing, E. A. Die meteoriten in sammlungen und ihre literatur, nebst einem versuch den tauschwert der meteoriten zu bestimmen. Tübingen, Laupp, 1897. 46+460 p.
"The author has sought information relative to the meteorite collections, public and private, from those in charge of them, and has collated and indexed the results in the form of an alphabetical list, giving for each preserved meteorite a statement of the date of fall or find, a list of the more important memoirs relating thereto, and the weights preserved in the various collections." — *Nature*, N. 18.

NAVAHO LEGENDS. In "Navaho legends, collected and translated," by Washington Matthews (American Folk Lore Society, 1897), Mr. Frederick Webb Hodge contributes a bibliography of about 46 titles (p. 276 – 278).

SIMMS, W: Gilmore. The "Publications" of the Southern History Association for October contains a 27-p. bibliography of the writings of W: G. Simms, by A. S. Salley, Jr. "This list," says the *Nation*, "gives but few and unimportant titles in addition to those included in the similar work by Prof. W. P. Treat, and its typography makes it less convenient for consultation."

SÜSSMILCH, Johann Peter. Willcox, W. F., *and* Crum, F. S. A trial bibliography of the writings of Johann Peter Süssmilch, 1707–1767. (*In* Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association, Sept., 1897. 5:310.)

WHITE, W. Hale. A description of the Wordsworth and Coleridge manuscripts in the possession of Mr. T. Norton Longman. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1897. 5+72 p. 8°. $3.50.

"An important contribution to the biography and bibliography of the two poets," says the *Critic*. Numerous facsimiles of manuscripts are given.

X-RAYS. Phillips, C: E. S. Bibliography of X-ray literature and research (1896–1897): being a ready reference index to the literature on the subject of Röntgen or X-rays; with an historical retrospect, and a chapter of practical hints. Lond., Electrician Printing and Pub. Co., Ltd., 1897. 37+68 p.

"Gives, in a handy and succinct form, a good deal of information respecting the literature of X-ray. The main and most valuable portion of the book is the bibliography, and this should certainly prove of utility to investigators in this branch of science. The volume, so far as we have been able to test it, appears to have been compiled with great care, and certainly a mass of useful knowledge is here gathered together in a form easy of reference. — *Nature*, N. 18.

*Literature*, the new weekly literary review, issued by the London *Times*, for which Harper & Brothers are American agents, plans to publish frequent bibliographies of timely topics. The first issue, for Oct. 23 (cover date Nov. 5), contains a column bibliography of the most trustworthy works referring to "the battle of Trafalgar"; there are 32 entries. The second number has a similar list (31 titles) on "The northwest frontier of India," and in no. 3 the bibliography relates to "Nigeria."

*INDEXES.*

FLETCHER, W: I., *and* Poole, Franklin O., *eds.* Poole's index to periodical literature: third supplement, from Jan. 1, 1892, to Dec. 31, 1896; with the co-operation of the American Library Association. Bost., Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1897. 15+638 p. por. O. $10.

There is little to add to the advance notice of this volume, as given in the L. J. for November (p. 724), but correction should be made of an error in the computation of sets indexed, as previously stated. This supplement covers 187 sets, of which 60 have not been previously indexed, and of these 60 there are 42 that have existed only since 1891. "This increase is only partially offset by the dropping out of 23 sets which were represented in the list of five years ago, the net gain being 37. The number of volumes covered by the supplement is 1388 as against 1068 in the previous ones." Mr. Fletcher's preface is an interesting summary of the development of periodicals in recent years and his memorial sketch of Dr. Poole, which is the fitting opening to the volume, is a sincere and earnest tribute. The frontispiece portrait of Dr. Poole is an especially fine engraving. The volume will be generally welcomed, and the debt that the library profession owes to Mr. Fletcher is materially increased by its issue within the year.

UNITED STATES. 54th Congress, 2d session, Dec. 7, 1896–March 3, 1897. Index to the subjects of the documents and reports, and to the committees, senators, and representatives presenting them; with tables of the same in numerical order [being the "consolidated index" provided for by the act of Jan. 12, 1895]; compiled under the direction of the Superintendent of Documents. Wash., Gov. Print. Office, 1897. 132 p. O.

The first issue of this index, for the 1st session of the 54th congress, appeared in March of this year and was reviewed in the L. J. for May (p. 270). The present number follows the same general plan as its predecessor, the only change being the addition of a numerical list of the documents and reports, which makes it possible to locate each by its number as well as by author, title, and subject. The main features and great usefulness of this index are familiar to readers of the JOURNAL, and do not now need commendation, but a word of special congratulation must be given in the promptness of its issue, barely eight months after the close of the period it covers.

## Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

SCOTT, C: T. A chapter on nom-de-plumes [*sic*]. [*In New England Magazine*, Oct., 1897. 17:185.]

Gives a brief outline of the history of pseudonyms, with sketches of some of the best known. Voltaire used 160 pseudonyms, and there are others used by him that have not been identified. The French are more given to the use of pseudonyms than any other people.

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